



THE HOAR STONE. DENTISGOURNE ABBOTS (see p. 156)



THE  
LONG BARROWS  
OF THE  
COTSWOLDS

*A Description of Long Barrows, Stone  
Circles and other Megalithic Remains  
in the area covered by SHEET 8 of the  
QUARTER-INCH ORDNANCE SURVEY  
comprising the Cotswolds and  
the Welsh Marches*

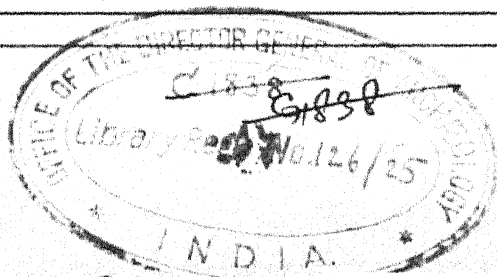
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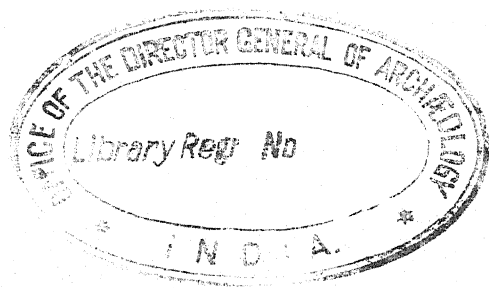
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*To the Memory of*  
JOHN THURNAM, M.D.  
*and of those other archæologists*  
*who laid the foundations upon*  
*which this work is built.*





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ENGLAND  
1925

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## ABBREVIATIONS

A. J.	-	-	Archæological Journal.
Arch.	-	-	Archæologia.
Arch. Camb.	-	-	Archæologia Cambrensis.
Brit. Bars.	-	-	Greenwell's British Barrows, 1877.
Cran. Brit.	-	-	Crania Britannica (2 vols., 1865).
J.A.I.	-	-	Journal of the (Royal) Anthropological Institute.
J.B.A.A.	-	-	Journal of the British Archæological Association.
Proc. C.N.F.C.	-	-	Proceedings of the Cotteswold Naturalists' Field Club.
Trans. B. & G.A.S.	-	-	Transactions of the Bristol and Gloucestershire Archæological Society.
W.	-	-	Archæological Handbook of the County of Gloucester, by G. B. Wits, C.E. (1883). W.34, etc., means N° 34 in his list of Long Barrows and on his map.
W.A.M.	-	-	Wiltshire Archæological Magazine (Devizes).
V.C.H.	-	-	Victoria County History.
N.O.A.S.	-	-	Transactions of the North Oxfordshire Archæological Society.
Antiq. Journ.	-	-	Antiquaries' Journal.
P.P. No. 6	-	-	Ordnance Survey Professional Paper No. 6 (published by H.M. Stationery Office, 1922).
*	-	-	against the Reference Numbers indicates that the site is marked on the quarter-inch map accompanying (see end of volume).

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## FOREWORD

THIS book is an attempt to collect together between two covers all the relevant facts known and recorded about certain Long Barrows and Stone Circles. It is limited in space, in time and in intention. It deals only with those parts of England and Wales which are included within the area of Sheet 8 of the  $\frac{1}{4}$ -inch Ordnance Survey Map; and within this area it is principally concerned with the Cotswolds and the fringe of the Black Mountains in Brecknockshire, where the majority of the Long Barrows are respectively concentrated. (A few sites outside the area of Sheet 8, but belonging geographically to the Cotswolds, are included in an Appendix).

No attempt is made to describe the remains of any period other than that (or those, as it may be) to which the Long Barrows and Stone Circles belong. The Stone Circles are few; none of them have been excavated, so that it is not known whether in this region they are contemporary with or later than the Long Barrows. Consequently, the book may be said to be almost confined to the Neolithic Period, to which, in the absence of contradictory evidence, the English Long Barrows have long been assigned.

Lastly, the book is essentially a compilation of scattered, inaccessible records, brought together for the benefit of future students. That is why, in the final section ("Mounds, Standing Stones, etc."), amongst many probably genuine objects, a number of "dummies" are described. No one need now be led out of his way by these; but it needed a visit of inspection to determine their true character. The author cannot, of course, vouch for the accuracy of some of the older plans and descriptions, but such as they are (and many are meagre and vague), they are often the only record of things now gone for ever. Many of the plans here reproduced may be inaccurate or incomplete; but without fresh excavations there is no means of correcting them, for the original excavations have fallen in, sometimes destroying, and always obscuring, the stonework; so that the original intention of the excavators, in leaving them open, has been defeated. Further, the excavators (who, it must be

## FOREWORD

remembered, were pioneers) seldom understood what they were doing and often misinterpreted what they uncovered. What other result could there be when constant personal supervision of the workmen was considered unnecessary? The naive accounts of the "opening" of the Bown Hill and Willersey barrows are interesting for this reason.

On the other hand, the author has recorded here for the first time some of the results of his own field-work. He has visited every site recorded in the first section of the book and in the appendix, and many of the others. In the course of his field-work he has discovered many new Long Barrows. Witts records 37 such in Gloucestershire (excluding three which have proved to be disqualified), whereas in this book 52 are described.

There are only two absolutely perfect Long Barrows in Gloucestershire—Lodge Park and Cold Aston. It seems desirable therefore that these two should be kept intact, even from archæologists; and that if at any time excavations should be undertaken by a suitably qualified person or society, some one of the fifty others should be selected. There are several such, practically intact, whose methodical and complete excavation should yield valuable results. The value, however, will consist much more in the resulting plan than in the discovery of objects in the burial-chambers. It is quite useless to scratch a hole in a barrow, and perhaps clear out a single chamber; at the present day knowledge will only be advanced by *a complete and thorough excavation of the whole mound*. Any thing short of this is worse than useless. General Pitt-Rivers has shown how a Long Barrow should be excavated in the account of his excavation of Wor Barrow, Dorset (*Excavations in Cranborne Chase*, Vol. iv). That, however, was an earthen Long Barrow; and no one has ever excavated a stone Long Barrow with scientific thoroughness. It would be well worth doing.

The author wishes to record his hearty thanks to all those who have in any way contributed towards the book, and to apologise in advance for any inadvertent omissions to record such acknowledgments. How much he is indebted to his friends will be seen by every reader. At the same time he does not wish to implicate them in any of his theories or classifications, for which, of course, he alone is responsible. Specific acknowledgments are made in the text, or, in the case of the illustrations, in the preliminary list.

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He is deeply grateful to Mr. A. D. Passmore, of Swindon, for the trouble he has taken in obtaining with his own camera many of the best illustrations in the book. Those specially taken by Mr. Passmore are: The Hoar Stone, Duntisbourne Abbots (frontispiece); Wayland's Smithy (views opp. pp. 49 and 51); Colnpen (opp. p. 89); Notgrove (opp. p. 116); Nympsfield (two views, opp. p. 119); Windmill Tump, Rodmarton (opp. p. 142); one of the Devil's Quoits, Stanton Harcourt (opp. p. 212); the Hawkstone (opp. p. 113); and Lugbury (opp. p. 230).

He wishes to thank the Council of the Society of Antiquaries for permission to reproduce (from electros) the following:— The portal, Belas Knap (p. 69); the portal, Uley (opp. p. 102); plan, Uley (p. 105); pot, Pole's Wood South, Upper Swell (p. 128); entrance to chamber, Windmill Tump, Rodmarton (p. 144); arrowheads, from the same (p. 144); and for the loan of the original plan (by the Rev. Charles Overy) from which that published here on p. 47 has been made. Most of the above illustrations accompanied Thurnam's classic article on Long Barrows in *Archæologia*, Vol. XLII.

He wishes also to thank the Wiltshire Archæological & Natural History Society, and Captain and Mrs. Cunnington for permission to reproduce the plan (p. 228), and two views (opp. p. 228) of Lanhill Barrow, excavated by them in 1909; Sir Arthur Evans for permission to reproduce, on pages 31 to 43, a long extract from his valuable paper on *The Folklore of Rollright*, first published in *Folklore*, Vol. VI.; Mr. A. E. W. Paine, of Cheltenham, for the photograph of the Bisley Skull (opp. p. 80), and for permission to have drawings made of the objects from Bown Hill, now in his collection; Mr. D. W. Herdman, Curator, and the authorities of the Town Museum, Cheltenham, for facilities in reproducing seven hitherto unpublished photographs exhibited in that Museum; Mr. C. E. Vulliamy, of Glasbury, for his plan of Pen-y-wyrldod (p. 61), Mr. Evan Morgan, of Brecon, for the photographs of Ty Illtyd (opp. p. 64), the plan of Ty Isaf (p. 66), and for much valuable assistance in dealing with the monuments of Brecknockshire; Mrs. Hookham, for the photograph (specially taken) of the portal at Lodge Park (opp. p. 112); Mr. Roland Austin, Librarian, Gloucester, for facilities in reproducing (from the originals in the Public Library there) the plans of Eyford (p. 94), Pole's Wood, East and South (pp. 124-6) and of the round barrows on Cow Common (p. 91) and for his care in compiling the index; Mr. R. A.



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Smith, F.S.A., of the British Museum, for permission to reproduce the drawing on p. 128, from his article in *Archæologia*, LXII.; Mr. Kendrick, also of the British Museum, for allowing to be published for the first time a drawing, on p. 96, of the Eyford pot; Colonel de Guérin and Major Carey, of Guernsey, for facilities in having reproduced (from the originals there) the many plans by the Rev. W. C. Lukis and Sir Henry Dryden.

For help in special regions (also specifically acknowledged in the text) the author wishes to thank Mr. E. Thurlow Leeds, F.S.A., of the Ashmolean Museum, Oxford; and Mr. J. G. Wood, F.S.A. For much local assistance he wishes to thank Mrs. Hookham, of Broadway, and the Rev. R. Jowett-Burton. For an introduction which led ultimately to the publication of this book, the author is indebted to Mr. A. E. W. Paine, to whom he wishes once again to express his gratitude.

Finally he wishes to thank the publisher, Mr. William Bellows, President of the Cotteswold Naturalists' Field Club, and Dr. Alfred Cox, O.B.E., Hon. M.A., who has corrected the proofs, for their patience and perseverance.

SOUTHAMPTON,

*February 14th, 1925.*







- Long Barrow
- Round "
- S Spring
- W Well

W. Witts [reference numbers  
given in his "Handbook"]  
other numbers [against Long  
Barrows] are those of O.G.S.C.

00 5000  
3280 ft.

## INTRODUCTION

IN this Introduction I shall deal only with the Long Barrows of the Cotswolds.

### I. DISTRIBUTION

Considered in relation to the rest of England, the Cotswold Long Barrows form a distinct group, as may be seen from the map. Within this group there are two regions where they are more thickly set : (a) the Swell region ; (b) the Avening region.

(a) THE SWELL REGION. Within a region a thousand yards square are the remains of five Long Barrows. (Four of these still exist ; one—represented by the Whistlestone [No. 107]—has been removed to another site). Just beyond is the Hoarstone [No. 92]—probably the remains of a sixth. These remains all lie on the west side of the river Dickler, between the villages of Upper and Lower Swell. About two miles to the west, on the western slopes of the upper Slaughter valley, are three more ; and in between are the probable remains of another. The periphery of this region of concentration is almost or quite blank ; eastwards there are none till Rollright is reached, nine miles to the N.E. Now there must be some reason for the presence of ten Long Barrows—seven are still in existence—within an area two miles square. It postulates a concentration of population ; and in those primitive neolithic days men were closely dependent upon Nature in their choice of settlement. What were the attractions of the Swell district ? I think the main one was the abundant perennial supply of water. The very name of Swell may indicate the presence of springs ; or possibly be the ancient name of the river here ; its derivation is doubtful, and early forms do not help. One would refer it either to O.E. *swellan*, to swell, or to O.E. *swelgan*, to swallow. From the latter comes O.E. *swelgend*, defined by Bosworth and Toller as “a place which swallows up (lit. or fig.), a very deep place, an abyss, a gulf, whirlpool ; vorago, barathrum.” Its use in the charters suggests that *swelgend* may have been used for a place where a stream sinks into limestone—a swallow-hole in fact. However this may be, the

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well at Lower Swell has long been famous. A former Rector refers\* to "the once marvellous village spring, once sending forth its 240 gallons per minute." The sides of the valley here are lined with springs, feeding the Dickler; and the same reasons which proved so attractive to the builders of the Long Barrows were probably equally so to the Roman, the Saxon and the mediæval settlers who have left traces of their habitations close by. Higher up, in the direction of Condicote, these springs become much less frequent.

A similar explanation will account for the smaller group at Eyford. Here, at a place now called Chalk Hill†, there is marked "Seven Springs" in Isaac Taylor's Map of 1777; and the valley of the Slaughter is thickly set with springs below the bridge at Burn Cottages. Above the bridge there seem to be few or none. Hither, no doubt, the Neolithic herdsmen came with their flocks and herds from the great sheepwalks and cow-pastures around Guiting Hill, Kinton Thorns, Swell Wold and Eyford Hill. Even to this day the field in which one of the Long Barrows lies is called by the older generation Cow Common.

The following extract from a letter, dated November 13th, 1922, and addressed to the author by Mr. L. Richardson of Cheltenham, will be of interest. Mr. Richardson, who is preparing a Memoir on the Water Supply of Gloucestershire for the Geological Survey, says:—"Chalk Hill proper is high up, and only small springs are there thrown out by the Fuller's Earth. The big springs near there are the source of the 'Eye' and the 'Roaring Wells' of Eyford. They are thrown out by the Upper Lias Clay and give rise—except in dry weather—to the 'Eye,' which lower down is called the Slaughter Brook. In Eyford Park, on the northern outskirts of which are the above-mentioned springs, is 'Milton's Well'—another small spring thrown out by the Upper Lias Clay. The 'Eye' (Slaughter Brook) flows into the Dickler in the Vale of Bourton. . . . Water issues copiously at Waterhead, and is impounded near its outburst to form Donnington mill-pond. Moreton-in-Marsh derives its supply from here. The Dickler, above Waterhead, flows mostly underground—is a bourne. . . . There is a strong spring

\* *Trans. B. and G.A.S.* vii. 76. I do not know whether this refers to the old Lady Well (near the Church) which was probably a sacred well from very early times, or to some other.

† I am convinced there must be more discoveries to be made at Chalk Hill (unless quarrying has destroyed them); I have not been able to make a proper search, however.





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at Lower Swell, that mentioned by Canon Royce. It is used to supply Lower Swell, and there is a strong overflow. The district in which all the above springs are situate is certainly noteworthy for the number of good springs comparatively close together, and the fact supports your suggestion."

The geological cause of the abundant springs is the exposure in the valley-sides of impervious liassic clays, through which the rainwater that has fallen on the oolitic uplands cannot permeate. At the junction of the overlying oolitic limestone beds with the lias clays a spring-line is formed.

(b) THE AVENING REGION. The same causes again may be invoked to account for the concentration in the region round Avening and Bisley. It would be tedious to examine each instance in detail. It will be sufficient to draw attention to the facts which are brought out by the map, where the presence of a spring is indicated by the letter 'S.'

It should be remarked that the number of Long Barrows in this region was probably greater than now appears. The numerous named stones near Minchinhampton are probably relics of destroyed Long Barrows ; and in the large parish of Bisley there seem to be some which have not yet been accurately located.\*

In the vicinity of Gatcombe is a concentration of the same kind as at Lower Swell.

OTHER DISTRIBUTIONS. It will be profitable to compare the distribution of Long Barrows with that of other objects over the same area.

One of the most remarkable features of the Cotswolds is the extraordinary abundance of flint arrowheads there. I know of no district in England where they have been found in such immense numbers. They consist of two main types, barbed and tanged, and leaf-shaped. The barbed and tanged arrowheads, which are more common here than the leaf-shaped, have never been found with a primary interment in a Long Barrow, and they are therefore regarded as belonging to a subsequent period. Leaf-shaped arrowheads on the other hand, have in several instances been found with primary interments in Long Barrows, and are

\* See under Devil's Garden, Cob Stone and Bisley. Some of this information has come to hand since I was in the district ; and I have therefore not had the opportunity of investigating further.



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rightly regarded therefore as belonging to the period of construction. Two such leaf-shaped arrowheads were found in the south chamber of Windmill Tump, Rodmarton ; another was found in Chamber 4 at Notgrove ; and another in West Tump. Other examples have been recorded in Wiltshire. The material for a study of the local distribution of flint arrowheads is preserved in the Cheltenham Museum, in the Royce Collection at Stow-on-the-Wold, in the British Museum, and in the private collections of Mr. A. E. W. Paine of Cheltenham, Mr. Witchell of Stroud and others. In very few instances is the exact site of discovery recorded ; in the Royce Collection an attempt is made, but the present condition of this fine collection is such that its scientific value is much impaired, and it cannot be used for study as it should. It contains literally *hundreds* of arrowheads, all found within the radius of a few miles of Lower Swell. One drawer alone is full of loose arrowheads, which may be taken up by the handful. The majority in this collection, and in others, consists of barbed and tanged specimens, but leaf-shaped arrowheads are by no means uncommon. The ratio is difficult to estimate under the existing conditions of labelling, but in the Royce Collection I should estimate the proportion of leaf-shaped to other types as being about the same as that of Long to Round Barrows in the Cotswolds. That is exactly what one would expect. Equally normal is the extraordinary abundance of arrowheads in the Swell district, which, as we have seen, was a region where population was concentrated.

If we wish to find a parallel for this remarkable phenomenon we must look to the limestone moors of Derbyshire and Staffordshire. There we find the same abundance (and I believe proportion) of both types of arrowhead. That region was, like the Cotswolds, a region of relatively dense population, both in the Late Neolithic Period and the succeeding Bronze Age.

An interesting point, however, is that in other regions, which, from the evidence of barrows, we know to have been centres of habitation, arrowheads of both kinds are comparatively rare. No part of England was more thickly inhabited during the Late Neolithic and Early Bronze Ages than the Marlborough Downs, Salisbury Plain and the Dorset uplands. Yet the local museums and private collections do not contain nearly so large a number of arrowheads as those of Gloucestershire. I doubt whether there are in all the Wiltshire Collections put together as many arrowheads as are to be found in the Royce Collection alone.



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This is not due to an absence of local collectors, for Wiltshire has always had its full share of these; and indeed has had more than the Cotswolds. In Wiltshire the region where arrowheads are most common is undoubtedly that around Avebury, where (as we shall see on a later occasion) Long Barrows are thickly concentrated.

Several interesting conclusions may be drawn from this. But first of all I must draw attention to a remarkable fact noticed by Canon Greenwell,\* namely, the almost complete absence of stone axes in the Cotswolds.† What is the reason for this dearth of axes? It is most difficult to think of any satisfactory answer. I can only suggest that few were lost; and that broken or worn-out axes were chipped up into arrowheads and scrapers. An axe is less easily lost than those smaller implements; and we know that it was the regular practice of the people who lived on Windmill Hill near Avebury to use up damaged polished axes in this way. Flint does not occur naturally in the Cotswolds in lumps large enough for axes, and every fragment may have been treasured up and re-used, just as, later, broken pieces of bronze implements were carefully preserved for the melting pot. I admit, however, that this suggested explanation is a very unsatisfactory one.

The abundance of arrowheads is easily explained. They were easy to make—the Brandon flint-workers of to-day will show you how easy—and exceedingly easy to lose. They show that the people of the Cotswolds must have been great hunters as well as shepherds and cowherds. Indeed there seems to have been little agriculture in this region throughout prehistoric times. Cultivation banks are almost entirely absent, and so are the agricultural hill-top village communities of the Iron Age which are so abundant on the chalk downs. During the Middle Ages the region was famed for its wool; and the great sheep-walks remained virgin pasture right up to the end of the last century.

\* *British Barrows*, pp. 443-4.

† They may be briefly enumerated here: a polished stone axe from "near the Long Barrow at Uley" (now in Guy's Hospital Museum); a polished axe (which has not yet been seen by an archæologist) found at Chedworth: 19 *fragments* of polished flint axes in the Cardew Collection at Cheltenham. There is not a single complete specimen in the Cheltenham Museum, nor a single specimen—perfect and unbroken—in the Royce Collection. In the Gloucester Museum are three: (1) from "pit dwellings at West-bridge near Wotton-under-Edge"; (2) from the "Stancombe side of Stinchcombe Hill"; and (3) from "the Long Stone, Minchinhampton."

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There is yet another puzzling lacuna in the objects found in the Cotswolds—the almost complete absence of beakers. With the exception of a fragment\* from Eyford, and of some small fragments with oblong punch-marks in the Gloucester Museum†, I do not know of a single instance in Gloucestershire. This may partly be due to lack of excavation. Very few Cotswold Round Barrows have been excavated; scientific method has been conspicuously absent; “mere” potsherds have been neglected, and even when preserved have been retained by the finders in too many instances, with the almost invariable result that they have now been lost. In those few barrows‡ where dateable objects were found, the remains seem to belong to the full Bronze Age—the period of bronze knife-daggers—or to an even later part of it (Swell 216, where a bronze razor and cinerary urns with overhanging rim were found).

Objects characteristic of the first—or æneolithic—period are completely lacking. There is not a single recorded instance of the discovery of any of the characteristic types—slate wrist-guards (Armschutzplatten), flint daggers, conical buttons, flint knife-daggers, copper blades—all of which have been found in the Round Barrows of Wiltshire associated with beakers and brachycephalic skeletons. We are driven to the conclusion, hinted at by Thurnam§, that the neolithic inhabitants of the Cotswolds were less affected by the invasion of the round-headed Beaker-folk than were their kinsmen in the south. It even seems possible that they continued burying their dead in Long Barrows when the people of Wiltshire had begun to bury them in round ones; so that some at least of the Cotswold Long Barrows may belong to the æneolithic period of the rest of England. Even in Wiltshire we know that Long Barrows were still being made—or used—after the arrival of the Beaker-folk. §§

It is tempting to prolong these speculations based upon negative evidence. Why are there no stone circles in Gloucestershire? Is

\* This fragment *may* be amongst the objects in the Rolleston Collection at Oxford. Whether it was in reality part of a beaker is uncertain.

† Found “in a round barrow near Nailsworth” in 1869, and presented by Mr. G. F. Playne of Nailsworth in 1874.

‡ Such as those at Snowhill and Notgrove. See *Arch. lii.* 70. and *Trans. B. and G. A. S. vii.* 70 and 71.

§ *Mem. Anthr. Soc. i.*

§§ This is proved by the discovery of beaker-fragments associated with fragments of round-bottomed bowls in the West Kennet Long Barrow. They are now in the Devizes Museum.

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this to be connected with the suggested absence of the Beaker-folk? And why are there no disc-barrows? Observe that the moment we cross the Evenlode we find a small burial-circle (near the Cross Hands, *see* pp. 175-6), a typical stone circle (at Rollright), and a disc barrow (seen by Stukeley, *Abury*, p. 12). Further, these anomalies occur on an "island" or outlier of habitation nearer to the settlement-area of the Beaker-folk round Oxford. Are we to regard the Rollright uplands as a westward extension—a frontier post, so to speak—of the Oxfordshire Beaker-folk?—as an overlap between the old and the new cultures? The older being represented by the King Stone Long Barrow and the Whispering Knights, the younger by the stone circle, the round barrows, the vanished disc barrow, and the burial circle. The absence of stone circles, burial circles, and disc-barrows in the Cotswolds proper is a strong argument that these three types of monument do not belong to the Long Barrow culture-circle. Other evidence in support will appear when Sheet I has been dealt with.\*

POSITION. Many of the Long Barrows are placed on the edge of valleys. Such for instance, are those of Juniper Hill, Lamborough Banks, Belas Knap, Eyford, New Close and Slate Pits Copse. Others, such as Lyneham, Crickley, King Stone and the Whispering Knights seem to be placed on or near the centre of a ridge of high ground, and to have some relation to a ridgeway track. That ridgeways are of very ancient origin is highly probable, and has been suggested by Sir Arthur Evans and Dr. Grundy. But it is always very difficult to *prove* them to have existed at any given date in prehistoric times. We can rarely, if ever, go beyond the realms of mere probability. A prehistoric date, however, can hardly be denied to such tracks as Buckle Street, which is accompanied by barrows from Willersley Hill to its termination at Bourton-on-the-Water.† The ancient sites at Rollright are all

\* The round earthwork at Condicote *may* have had the ditch on the inside of the bank. If so, it would have been presumably a sacred circle rather than a defensive camp. But it is impossible to be certain of this fact by mere observation, only excavation can decide on which side the ditch really is. In its present condition mere inspection is inadequate to decide this most important point, and I merely mention it in the hope that excavation will be undertaken. A single trench through the rampart, prolonged inside for a few yards, would be sufficient.

† Barrows occur on Willersey Hill itself (one Long and one Round), near Scarborough Farm (Round), at Salter's Pool (Round), at the cross-roads a mile S.W. of Trafalgar Farm, in Kinton Thorns (Round), and Wagborough Bush (Round). All except the first of these intervals approximates very closely to a mile and a half.

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situated *just below* the highest point of the ridge and on the southern slope. They are all within a stone's throw of the modern road, which is certainly a very ancient one, and which itself deliberately avoids the crest of the hill. These facts indicate that the builders of the monuments lived to the south of them, as the topography itself also suggests. The crest of the ridge may have been shunned by the road on account of its bleakness, a fact familiar to all those who have frequented that region in winter, during a period of north-easterly winds.

The question of proximity of Long Barrows to each other has already been dealt with in the Professional Paper. Another possible aspect of the same subject is suggested by certain Long Barrows which *may* be placed end to end. No certain instance is known to me in this region; but there are two so placed at Barton Stacey in Hampshire. The Long Barrow at Juniper Hill may really be two placed end to end. Witts believed that there were two so placed at Camp; the present condition of the southern barrow however, is such that his opinion cannot be tested without excavation. Another doubtful instance occurs at College Plantation; but here again, excavation only can determine whether one of the mounds—the western—is a true Long Barrow.

A few words must be said to anticipate an objection which has frequently been made. It is said that arguments about distribution are vitiated at the outset by the upsetting effect of agricultural operations. Barrows, it is said, occur most thickly on land that has for long been, or still is, virgin soil; their absence elsewhere is due to destruction by ploughing. But that is not so here. No district of the Cotswolds has been subjected to more ploughing than the neighbourhood of Lower Swell—an ancient Saxon settlement. Apart from any question of Roman agriculture—and we have remains of a Roman villa at Lower Swell—there can be no doubt that from mediæval times at least, cultivation was extended all round the Long Barrows that cluster so thickly near the Church; and it is certain that it has gone on there ever since, and is still continuing. But in no period until the present (beginning, say, 300 years ago) was the destruction of these primeval burial-places so lightly undertaken or so thoroughly carried out. An even stronger argument is the absence of barrows, both long and round, in certain tracts of virgin country. Agricultural operations have never been carried on extensively\* in the Forest of Dean, the Central Weald, or

\* Except, of course, in a few isolated clearings still inhabited.

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the New Forest. Yet large tracts of the first and last region, and the whole of the Central Weald are entirely destitute of barrows, and indeed of almost every kind of prehistoric remains, fixed or portable. In the Cotswolds a check is afforded by the distribution of leaf-shaped arrow-heads, themselves, be it noted, picked up mainly on ploughed fields; for at least one of the most prolific regions—the Swell district—coincides exactly with a region where Long Barrows have been seen to concentrate.

### II. PURPOSE

That Long Barrows were intended for the burial of the dead must be obvious from the facts enumerated in this book. These facts speak for themselves and are a full and sufficient answer to those—if any there be still—who have doubts as to their purpose. A few words must be said about the ossuary theory. According to those who hold this view—and the present writer is one—the bones deposited in the burial-chambers had already been buried or exposed for a time elsewhere; and were subsequently dug up or collected for solemn re-burial in a permanent and more imposing resting-place. There is a good deal of evidence for this theory; and there are many facts which are more satisfactorily explained by it than by any other. In the majority of instances where excavation has been carefully conducted, and where accurate observations have been made, *complete* skeletons have not been found, but the incomplete remains of several skeletons. In one instance (Pole's Wood South) the size of the burial chamber was not great enough to have contained the total number of bodies found in it, supposing all these to have been placed in it immediately after death. If we are justified in believing that the religion of the Long Barrow people in England was akin to that of the Mediterranean peoples, and that both were branches of a single, once uniform, cult, we may quote in support the instances of secondary burial recorded in Italy and Sicily.\* This strange custom was still observed in the West Indies in the 17th century. In a letter to John Aubrey, the Wiltshire antiquary, dated October 16th, 1689, Sir Hans Sloane thus describes it †: "All I could learn at Jamaica concerning the way of sepulture of the ancient Indian inhabitants was that they put the bodies of their dead into the natural caves of the rocks, and that after some time, wherein the fleshy

\* See Professional Paper, No. 6, p. 5.

† Copied from a MS. transcript, by Colt Hoare (1810), of extracts from Aubrey's *Monumenta Britannica*, in the Devizes Library ("Wilts MS.").



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and other more corruptible parts of the carcasses were consumed, they took the dust and bones and laid them in urns in the same cavities of the rocks ; and shutt up all entrances into these caves with loose stones adapted together the best way they could without any cement." He then describes the discovery of a cave in the Red Hills, four miles from St. Jago de la Vega, in the plantations of one Mr. Barnes, which was walled up in this way and contained " one carcase, bones all in order, and the rest of the cave filled with pots wherein were bones of men and children ; the pots or urnes were oval, about  $1\frac{1}{2}$  foot in diameter and 3 inches deep, of a dirty reddish colour, and on the upper part of their rim or ledge there stood an ear not one inch square on which were made some lines grossly enough cut near the upper edge." In another cave in the east of the island were found " similar urns with covers to them on which were made the figures of alligators and other creatures of that kind."

The broken condition of the bones in these Cotswold Long Barrows is, however, such as to suggest that mere re-burial is not by itself a sufficient explanation. The fractures are often such as would require considerable force ; and the fact that different parts of the same bone are found some distance apart proves that the fracture cannot have been caused by any collapse of the superstructure. Moreover the same phenomena have been observed in unrifled and perfect chambers. The period of temporary burial would not have been sufficient to reduce the bones to a friable, mineralised condition, which requires centuries of inhumation. The breaking up of the bones would seem therefore, to have been intentional, and was perhaps of a ritual character. What this ritual was, or what beliefs lay behind the custom of secondary burial we do not know, and we cannot expect to find out by excavation. For an explanation we must look to the accounts of anthropologists who have actually observed this custom being carried out.

It has been suggested that the burial chambers in these Cotswold Long Barrows were modelled upon stone huts used by their builders for habitation. Common sense tells us that people who could build as well as they could would not build only tombs. But not a single one of these hypothetical dwellings has survived in this region ; and we have therefore no direct evidence. True, a " round underground hut, formed of dry walling " is said to have existed in the " immediate vicinity " of the Long Barrow called Lamborough Banks (No. 34), in 1865, but for this

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single instance we have only the authority of the Rev. S. Lysons, whose book, *Our British Ancestors*, does not inspire confidence.\* No traces of it now survive, if it ever existed. Canon Greenwell discussed the possibility of his Swell 217 (round) being a hut, and concluded, quite rightly as I think, that it was a burial chamber.

The almost complete absence of habitations belonging to the Neolithic and Early Bronze Ages in England is a most puzzling fact. People who made Long Barrows must have had some form of permanent settlement; yet neither here, nor as we shall see, in Wessex, have any traces whatever been found†. Their absence in Wessex is the more strange; for we can hardly regard Avebury and Stonehenge as the work of wandering shepherds.

### III. AGE

Nothing that has been found with the primary interments of the Cotswold Long Barrows is inconsistent with the hypothesis that they belong to the late Neolithic Period. No trace of metal and no metal object has ever been found. The discovery of leaf-shaped arrowheads at Notgrove (41), West Tump (52) and Rodmarton (56) is in agreement with Thurnam's attribution‡ of this type to the Long Barrow period; no barbed and tanged arrowhead has ever, in this country, been found in a Long Barrow. We are not helped much by the discovery of bone implements at Bown Hill (15), Pole's Wood East (44) and Belas Knap (12); their value is due rather to the paucity of Long Barrow types than to any intrinsic merit. The two beads from Eyford (24)§ and Notgrove (41) respectively, are new since Thurnam's classic article, and they are both likely to prove valuable for purposes of dating.

POTTERY. Most of the pottery found in the Gloucestershire Long Barrows is so fragmentary that it is of little use for comparative purposes; moreover most of it has disappeared. The fragment from Nympsfield

\* His derivation of Hetty Pegler's Tump from two Hebrew words, *i.e.*, Hété, meaning "heat, fire, burning," and "peleg" meaning "distribution," will give some idea of the character of his work. "As far as we can make out any meaning at all from his book, English is Welsh and Welsh is Hebrew," wrote Professor Freeman in a most amusing notice of it (*Saturday Review*, Nov. 25th, 1865).

† Since this was written some traces have been found in Wiltshire; but full investigation is now taking place.

‡ *Arch. xlii.*, 230. Those from Notgrove and West Tump had not yet been found when Thurnam wrote this.

§ Now in the British Museum, Wall-case 18.

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appears to have borne the maggot pattern usually associated with round-bottomed bowls.\* That from Gatcombe Lodge may have been similarly ornamented; the fragment illustrated in Lysons' letter certainly had a herring-bone device upon it. The "debris of a vessel of very coarse pottery, nearly black" found in the intact northern chamber at Rodmarton (56) was regarded by Thurnam as "the most important find of pottery yet made in the Chambered Long Barrows of this district." It has now been lost; at any rate its present whereabouts are unknown†; but Thurnam had seen it and recorded that it was of identical fabric with that found in the Long Barrow at Norton Bavant, Wilts,‡ now in the British Museum. A new feature is presented by the flat "bead-rim" of a fragment from Notgrove. (See p. 117).

The most important (because the most perfect) piece of Neolithic pottery from the Cotswolds is the vessel§ found at the eastern end of Pole's Wood South (45). It was not associated with an interment, but "was found just over the facing of the north 'horn,' near to its eastern extremity, and not much below the present surface of the mound." (Greenwell, *Brit. Barrows*, p. 523). Mr. R. A. Smith describes it as "4 inches high, the ware pinkish brown, fairly thin and hard, with a fair proportion of grit; and the ornamentation consists of curving but irregular groups of lines made with a toothed stick. . . . Though the ware is comparatively thin, and the bottom flat, the profile recalls that of the Neolithic bowls, and is distinct from any recognised Bronze Age type." (*Arch.* lxii, 347, fig. 14). It will be seen from the drawing (reproduced here, by kind permission of the Society of Antiquaries, on p. 128), that the bottom, though less rounded than that of the vessels from Peterborough and Mortlake, is hardly *flat*; it would be more correct to describe it as "rounded."

In the Royce Collection at Stow-on-the-Wold is a large piece of a small plain round-bottomed vessel with straight unmoulded lip. It has no label; but its paste has the characteristic admixture of pounded fossil shell noted by Thurnam as characteristic of Neolithic pottery in

\* See Mr. R. A. Smith's article in *Arch.* lxii.

† If it exists it is probably with the rest of Lysons' collection, wherever that may be.

‡ Figured in *Arch.* xlii., p. 195, fig. 4. It should be noted that Thurnam, who always chose his words carefully, compares the *fabric*, not the *shape*, of the two vessels.

§ Now in the British Museum, Wall-case 18.



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certain districts. It was probably found in one of the Long Barrows in the Swell district excavated by Royce ; but in the absence of any label its value is slight.

ROMAN RIFLING. The fact that the Romans rifled barrows has long been known. The evidence from this region is confirmatory. The finds consist of (1) Bown Hill [coin of Germanicus] ; (2) Hetty Pegler's Tump [coins of the " three sons of Constantine " ] ; (3) Randwick [Roman horse-shoe and potsherds] ; (4) Windmill Tump, Rodmarton [coin of Claudius Gothicus] ; (5) Hoar Stone, Enstone [Roman pottery]\*. In all these barrows the position in which the Roman remains were found proved that the mound had been dug into during the Roman occupation.

In several of the Long Barrows secondary burials of the Saxon period have been found in the upper part of the mound or cairn. There would seem to be no object in making more than a passing reference here to this practice, since its occurrence is noted in the detailed descriptions, and it seems to have little bearing on our subject.

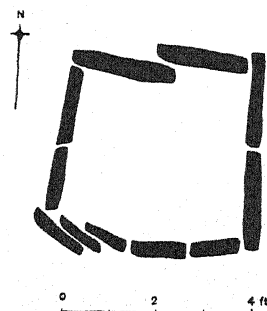
BRONZE AGE CISTS. I have already referred to the possibility that Long Barrows may have continued being made in this region during the first period of the Bronze Age, more properly called the Aeneolithic Period. That they did not continue to be made much after this period is probable from the fact that stone *cists* in round barrows have been found, containing bronze knife-daggers of a type which belongs to the second period of the Bronze Age. The difference has been well summed up by Canon Greenwell (*Brit. Barrows*, p. 451) :—" The principal feature which marks the difference between the earlier and the later mode of burial in barrows of a time before the introduction of iron, and where stone receptacles for the body have been constructed within the mound, appears to be this. In the earlier places of sepulture [*i.e.* in this district, Long Barrows] the bodies, burnt or unburnt, have been deposited in what may be called chambers, that is, receptacles which are not entirely closed, and into which, in many cases, access was had by a gallery or passage ; in the later ones the bodies were placed in a cist, that is, a receptacle entirely closed, and into which it was not intended that access in the future should be had." Generally speaking, cists occur in Round Barrows and chambers in Long ones. But it will be noted that in

\* See also Pen-y-Wyrlod (7), Brecknockshire.

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Brecknockshire cists occur also in some of the Long Barrows (*e.g.*, Ty-isaf and Pen-y-Wyrlod); while in Gloucestershire a chamber was found in a Round Barrow which formed one of five in a row and touching each other.\* Canon Greenwell attributed this barrow (his No. 217), to a transitional period; and regarded it as certainly of sepulchral origin. It had been rifled and no remains were found of any primary interment. In structure it closely resembled the chambers of Long Barrows. (Plans of this group of Round Barrows, including that with the chamber in question, are given on p. 91. Although not strictly germane to the subject of this book, these barrows are not unconnected with the later evolution of burial chambers, and the plans have not previously been published.)†

In *Trans. Bristol and Gloucestershire Archæological Society*, Vol. vii, 70 and 71, Canon Royce described the opening of a Round Barrow of the Bronze Age east of Notgrove station. It was encountered (and partially or wholly destroyed) when the railway cutting was made. The mound seems to have consisted of a core of topsoil, covered by "a kind of slight roofing of slates carried up about one-third of the slope of the barrow." This suggests that the slates were derived from the excavation of a surrounding ditch, dug after the bulk of the earthen mound had been piled up. If so, there would be a parallel here to the bell-barrow at Roundwood, Hants. (described in the *Proceedings of the Hampshire Field Club*, Vol. ix., Part 2). In the centre "under a beehive-like capping of stones, in size two feet by ten inches but tapering off" was "a cist, four feet square, each side facing the cardinal points." (*See plan*). In the centre of the cist "on a floor of carefully laid slates, was deposited a small heap of decomposed [he probably means 'burnt'] matter with small broken bones above it. There were two portions of skulls. . . . To the west of this little heap, a small triangular bronze implement, much corroded, perforated at the base with two holes. This instrument was sent to Dr. Rolleston, and is probably in the Oxford Museum. This



CIST IN ROUND BARROW  
AT NOTGROVE  
(after Royce, B. & G.A.S.,  
Vol. vii). 1:50

\* In the field called Cow Common, close to the Long Barrow (21) and to the west of it. The others in the row were certainly of the Bronze Age.

† I have to thank Mr. Roland Austin, Librarian of Gloucester, for facilities in copying these plans from the originals, by Sir Henry Dryden, which are in his charge.

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burial was, of course, after cremation.”\* The bronze implement referred to is figured on Plate 10 of the same volume, and is evidently a typical knife-dagger belonging to Period II of the Bronze Age. Its present abode is unknown, unless it is still buried (for the second time) in the store rooms of the Oxford University Museum, where the rest of the Rolleston collection is believed to be.

A third instance of a burial-cist of the Bronze Age was described by Canon Greenwell (*Arch.* LII, 70). It was in a barrow at Snowhill in the north of Gloucestershire. “At the centre, and partly sunk below the level of the natural surface, was a cist formed of four slabs of stone set on edge, with a single stone for a cover. It was 4 feet long, 3 feet wide and  $2\frac{1}{2}$  feet deep. It contained the much decayed skeleton of, presumably, a man, with whom were associated two bronze daggers, a bronze pin, and a perforated axe-hammer of stone.” (Illustrated there in Figs. 31—34). These objects all belong to the end of what may be called the knife-dagger period. One of the daggers had a socket of the Arreton type. It will be observed that all resemblance to a chamber has vanished, the cist being of the type commonly found throughout Britain during the Early Bronze Age.†

## IV. STRUCTURE

A few observations on structure may be added to those in the introduction to the first part. Some of them have been suggested by helpful criticisms of the earlier publication, particularly those of Dr. Ashby and Mr. J. G. Wood, though it is only right to add that the points raised by them were not overlooked when I visited the sites in 1920-1.

CORBELLING. Dr. Ashby raises the question of corbelling as evidence for date—whether it is possible on these grounds to distinguish earlier and later types of burial-chambers. In Sardinia it is possible to trace a development; in the earlier stages the capstones rest directly upon the tops of the supporting side stones; in the later they do not do

\* Further on it is stated that “the stones of this cist were conveyed to Copse Hill [a large country house in the parish of Upper Slaughter, half-a-mile E.N.E. of the village] and set up there on the site of another burial-ground, but not after their original position or arrangement.”

† The exact range in time of this type of cist is uncertain. It was in common use during the beaker period, and occurs even in certain late Long Barrows; and it seems to have lasted on until the Early Iron Age in some districts. It was, however, essentially a Bronze Age, not a Neolithic, type in this country.

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so, but upon an interpolated course of corbelled stonework. This has the advantage of narrowing the roof-space to be covered, and so reducing the size of the capstone required.\* In the district covered by Sheet 8 evidence of this kind is scanty. Corbelling, indeed, occurs at Gatcombe Lodge, Uley, Rodmarton and Belas Knap; but it may also have occurred at the Whispering Knights, the Hoar Stone of Enstone and the other typical "dolmens" on the Welsh border. In the first two instances the capstone has fallen; but whether fallen or not, few capstones in this district rest directly upon *all* their supports.† Sometimes‡ this would have been impossible on account of the difference in height of the uprights. How are we to know that in such cases the deficiencies were not filled by wedges of flat stones? The destruction of the protecting mound would account for their disappearance, which would in any case be sure to occur sooner or later when the chamber became exposed. Wanton destroyers would attack these weak spots first, even if only to have the fun of seeing the capstone collapse; this would frequently occur when the wedges were removed; and in fact, this may be a reason why so few capstones remain in position.

An actual instance of "mixed" structure occurs at Hetty Pegler's Tump, Uley. Here, out of the seventeen uprights forming the passage and chambers, eight directly support the capstones, and the remaining nine are separated therefrom by corbelling. The Rev. R. Jowett Burton of Chalford, to whom I am indebted for these observations, adds: "The stones between the uprights and capstones are *wedges* to fill in the uneven top of the upright." A similar mixture occurs in the north chamber at Gatcombe Lodge, where all except one upright are separated from the single huge capstone by corbelling. At Rodmarton there is walling or corbelling between all the uprights and capstones in both the north and south chambers. If then, we assume corbelling to be evidence of lateness of date, Rodmarton will be later than Uley, and Gatcombe Lodge will be intermediate. This conclusion is in agreement with the argument from plan set out in Professional Paper, No. 6, p. 4, where priority is postulated for the true (Uley) over the false (Rodmarton) passage-grave type.

\* The evolution of the Sardinian Giants' Tombs from the dolmen has been firmly established by Dr. Duncan Mackenzie upon other structural grounds. See *Papers of the British School at Rome*, Vols. v. (1910), pp. 87-137, and vi. (1913), pp. 127-170.

† Arthur's Stone, Dorstone (No. 60), appears to be an instance.

‡ For instance, at Enstone.

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"DOLMENS." Inaccurate statements have frequently been made about those burial chambers which are at present *free-standing* or nearly so—that is, those which are not buried in a mound or cairn. It is assumed that there was a class of burial-chamber which was never covered; or that the covering mound was round. That in other regions burial-chambers occur in round, not long, mounds or cairns, is certain; but there is no evidence of any such in the area of Sheet 8, or indeed anywhere in England, east and south-east of the Severn. As for the presence of a mound, reference to the text will show that traces of a mound exist, or can be proved formerly to have existed, at all the now free-standing "dolmens"—Enstone, Whispering Knights, Arthur's Stone, Y Garn Llwyd and Cleppa Park are instances. Now these last differ in not a single essential point from the burial-chambers which occur in Long Barrows. If the covering mound or cairn at Gatcombe Lodge or Rodmarton were to be carried away, there would be left the remains of a *small but quite typical free-standing "dolmen."* Yet it is quite certain that in both these instances (and many other similar) we have to do with structures which are integral parts of a Long Barrow. If, as has been suggested, the free-standing "dolmens" of this region were originally covered in a *round* mound—which is a pure assumption—it is rather curious that these hypothetical round mounds should all have vanished when so many of the long ones have survived. And it would surely be a little unreasonable to suppose that round mounds disappear more readily than long ones! In effect, the supporters of the "round mound" really say: "Burial-chambers in Long Barrows are distinct from 'dolmens,' because 'dolmens' stood in a round mound. This (now free-standing) 'dolmen' is a typical 'dolmen'; therefore it must have been covered (if at all) by a round mound." I repeat that I am dealing only with the district covered by Sheet 8, where, as I believe, megalithic chambers were covered only by long mounds or cairns.

"Dolmens" which are at present free-standing, often give an impression of greater height and size than those which are covered up. That this impression is misleading can be proved by measurements. The available material has been given wherever possible, in the text. In some instances, however, the *height* of uprights is less than it should be because the debris of excavation or natural silting from the mound has covered their bases.



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**DRY WALLING AND UPRIGHTS.** It is natural to suppose that dry walling gradually superseded uprights, just as the corbelled arch may have superseded the capstone. But there is no proof that it did so. Ortholithic building was in use during the Bronze Age, though hardly on a megalithic scale, and dry walling replaced the usual upright slabs in some of the chambers at Notgrove—a barrow of the true passage-grave type—and at Belas Knap. When once dry walling had been invented and used to fill the interstices between the uprights themselves and between these and the capstone, the use of upright slabs became unnecessary, but it continued.

**THE PRESENCE OF SUITABLE STONE.** That the presence or absence of suitable stone had no influence upon the distribution of Long Barrows is certain. Suitable stone occurs in Gloucestershire west of the Severn, and in a great many other parts of Sheet 8; but Long Barrows are absent. On the other hand, when they could not get suitable stone, they made a wooden chamber and an earthen mound, as we shall see when we come to deal with Sheet 11. There are, in fact, more Long Barrows of this earthen kind than of the stone-chambered type. Lastly, we may refer under this heading to a curious fact which remains to be explained. The distribution of Long Barrows is not a *complete* guide to the distribution of population during the Long Barrow period. For there were settlements in that huge eastern region where Long Barrows are absent—probably on the banks of the Thames at Wallingford, Hedsor and Mortlake, and certainly on the shore of the Fens at Peterborough. The discovery of neolithic pottery at all these places makes it reasonable to infer settlement there. Moreover, the people used exactly the same kind of round-bottomed pottery as that which was found in the West Kennet Long Barrow and, if we may judge from a single lost fragment badly drawn, in the Nympsfield Long Barrow. Why did they not make Long Barrows?

**ORIENTATION.** With one exception—Belas Knap—the “business end” of the Long Barrows within this area is to the east, north-east, or south-east. It is also invariably higher and broader than the other end.

**DITCHES.** There is no evidence for the presence of side-ditches accompanying any of the barrows in this area, except the two in Berkshire—Wayland's Smithy and Churn—which belong properly to the Wessex series where such ditches are the rule. In some of the Gloucestershire instances which occur on apparently virgin down—Selsley Tumps, Coberley and Lodge Park, for instance—this absence of ditches appears

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to be certainly an original feature and not due to subsequent silting up. This is a very natural result of the geological conditions. To get the necessary materials for the mound or cairn *deep* excavation was unnecessary. Shallow surface clearance of the upper disintegrated oolitic layers was enough. It was a waste of time to attempt quarrying the deeper, unweakened strata. In chalk districts, on the other hand, not only is the rock itself much softer, but its hardness does not increase in the same proportion as lower strata are reached. It gets more compact, of course, but is still workable with rude implements—as the great ditch at Avebury proves.

WORKING, SCULPTURE. With the possible exception of the shelf on one of the uprights at Belas Knap, *q.v.*, there is no proof of the working of the stones composing these Long Barrows. Nor have cup-and-ring marks been observed anywhere in this area. It is also not unlikely that the port-hole\* stones at Belas Knap may have been artificially chipped in some cases; but this is conjectural. There is no certain means of distinguishing artificially *chipped* oolite from that which has been chipped or broken by natural means. Since, however, some of the holed stones of other regions have certainly been produced artificially, there seems no reason to suppose that some of the Cotswold examples may not have been intentionally chipped. The point is really hardly worth discussing.

PORTALS. The principal “points” of a chambered Long Barrow may be described as the burial-chambers, the portal and the ground in front of it, the surrounding wall and the covering mound or cairn. Next after the burial-chambers, the portal is the most interesting feature. It consists (in the typical instance of Belas Knap) of two upright stones about 4 feet apart, supporting a lintel, with a flat slab set between them. In Barrows of the false passage-grave type† the portal led either to a single chamber immediately beyond, or nowhere at all. It is, therefore, in examples of the last type, a purely ceremonial survival. Originally the portal was without doubt functional; it stood at the threshold of the tomb, and through it passed the corpse to its last home. Outside it,

\* For further information about these port-holes see my *O. S. Professional Paper*, No. 6, p. 5 and note on p. 73 of this book (under Belas Knap).

† For a description of the true and false passage-grave types, see the introduction to my *O. S. Professional Paper* No. 6. A foreign example of the false passage-grave type is to be seen in Calvados; see “Le Tumulus de la Hogue à Fontenay-le-Marmion (Calvados); Étude des Tumulus néolithiques du Calvados et de l’Orne; par Léon Coutil.”—*Mém. Soc. Préh. française*, Vol. iv., 1915-19, pp. 65-138.

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when closed and made fast, may have gathered the people of the tribe to do reverence to the spirit of the dead and perhaps to leave their offerings. When later it became the custom to make chambers, each opening outwards in the sides of the barrows, the holy place may still have been needed for secondary ritual performances there. It may thus have become, in fact, a kind of altar and it is to be observed that, with a single exception (Belas Knap), the portal is at the east end of the barrow. The portal is a regular feature of the Sardinian Giants' Tombs; and it occurs in the megalithic temples of Malta in a position which, when analysed, corresponds exactly to its position in, for instance, Hetty Pegler's Tump, at Uley. In the Mediterranean region the megalithic religion was—nay, still is—endemic, and the custom of placing the altar at the east end of Christian churches was probably derived ultimately from the neolithic practice. The evolution however, took place, not in these islands but somewhere in the Mediterranean, the home of many prehistoric rites adopted by Christianity.

How comes it that we find spread over a large part of the Old World so many symbols of a common cult? The symbols are a little different in details in each region, but there is sufficient resemblance to prove an ultimate community of origin. Let us, following anthropological methods, take one instance from the modern world, and, projecting ourselves as far into the future as before into the past, imagine the archæologist of about A.D. 4844 reviewing the results of excavation. He finds, in the Old World, in the Early Scientific Period, the survivals of three main cults, agreeing (so far as he can judge from church-plans and the discovery of "cult objects") in general outlines, but differing in details. He argues from this a religion that was once common and undivided and that originated at one time and in one place. As time went on, this religion, he will reason, developed local peculiarities—evolved in fact, like any other living organism—until finally there appeared little in common between each, except certain fundamental facts. Their relations are found to be those of distant cousins descended from a common ancestor. That was, in my opinion, exactly the relation between the megalithic cults of, say, England, Scandinavia and the Mediterranean. Each branch—or cult-region—may have been influenced to some extent by the other, through trade or migration; but, generally speaking, each evolved along independent lines from a common origin to a different conclusion.



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But to return. Leaving out barrows known to belong to the true passage-grave type, where the portal had a practical use, there are in the Cotswolds\* two certain instances of a single "portal-chamber" without entrance passage—Bown Hill (15) and Randwick (47). At Bown Hill a "chamber of five large unhewn stones" was found at the east end, against which the incurving dry walls abutted. At Randwick was the chamber, the plan of which is given on p. 130. Both these chambers contained burials; but only at Randwick is the published record sufficiently exact to be of any use as evidence. Remains indicating portals without any clear evidence of a chamber have been found at Camp (16) where the dilapidated ruins of the portals still exist at the south end; at Gatcombe Lodge where the remains of the two uprights can still be seen, and the incurving walls have been recorded but are now destroyed or covered with fallen debris; at Lodge Park (37) where the portal survives intact with the lintel and may or may not lead to a chamber; at West Tump, where two uprights only, without a lintel, were found, and where excavations proved that a chamber did not exist †; at Willersey, where "large stones" are said to have been found at the east end; at Lanhill, and at Lugbury, Wiltshire, and at Windmill Tump, Rodmarton, where were two uprights five feet apart and about  $8\frac{1}{2}$  feet high. (The rest of the account of the portal at Rodmarton is unsatisfactory. A fallen lintel is still to be seen there; but I am now inclined to discount many of the details given by Lysons to whose description I referred in Professional Paper No. 6.) There are certainly other instances, but these are enough to prove that portals were a common feature.

## V. FAUNA AND FLORA

Strictly speaking, the human remains should be dealt with under this heading. I do not, however, propose to do so, as I am not competent to discuss the anatomical side of the evidence. I shall merely call attention to two facts (1) the confirmation of Thurnam's dictum (based of course, on some of the evidence here recited); (2) the remarkable evidence of violent deaths provided by the skulls from Belas Knap. It is strange

\* I purposely omit the Brecknockshire examples which belong to a different group. The evolutionary position, and indeed, the true character "according to plan" of such barrows as Ty Iltyd, is still obscure; and it will remain so until some really thorough excavation of a whole Long Barrow (not merely of the burial chambers) has been carried out.

† The tops of the uprights were, to judge from the photographs, almost flush with the surface, so that a lintel may have existed, but have been removed before the barrow was discovered by Witts.

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that Thurnam did not refer to this; to my mind the evidence is clear and convincing. The skulls have not all been described, and should most certainly be examined by an expert, preferably a police surgeon. (A summary of different views on "Neolithic Man" with full references, will be found in Rice Holmes' *Ancient Britain* (1907) pp. 393-409).

The animals included in the primary burials are ox (*Bos longifrons* and *primigenius*) sheep, pig, goat, horse, dog, red deer, roe deer (I give the English names, as in most cases the Latin name of the species was not given in the original account). The evidence for the presence of the horse is clear, and I must take this opportunity of calling attention to the fact, since in a previous work (*Man and His Past*, 1920, p. 125) I questioned the fact.

The pig seems to have played an important part in the life of these times. In several instances the lower jaw of a pig was found in close association with primary interments—in Hetty Pegler's Tump (31), Cow Common (21), Pole's Wood South (45), and perhaps at Randwick (47). In the first barrow a perforated boar's tusk was found.

No evidence of the contemporary neolithic flora has been obtained from the Long Barrows of the district.

## VI. FOLKLORE

Both Stone Circles and Long Barrows had a religious character, and it is one of the objects of these researches to discover evidence of the beliefs and ritual of their makers. It is an exceedingly difficult task; and here, for once, excavation helps us little. The best clues are in the customs and traditions which have been recorded about individual monuments. But the passing of three or four thousand years and the disturbing influence of at least five invasions\* have both wrought much havoc.

When however, we find stories attached to monuments in the Cotswolds, which resemble stories told of similar (and probably contemporary) monuments in Brittany or the Channel Islands, we may reasonably argue that they are the faint echoes of a common cult. Such for instance, is the tale of midnight flittings. Mr. Passmore was fortunate enough to catch this elusive and hitherto unrecorded bit of folk-lore from a child whom he saw near the Long Stone at Minchinhampton. The story was that when it heard the clock strike twelve, the stone ran

\* See Note p. 44.

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round the field. The complementary part—which usually accompanies this tale—the association with water—is supplied by Gwal-y-filiast (112) which is said to go down to the sea and swim about like a fish when it hears the cock crow at night. This story, or something like it, is believed by Colonel de Guérin to account for the name “La Roque qui tourne” applied in 1549 to a stone in Guernsey. He says\* :—“Though no legend concerning it has survived, it is very likely, from its name that there was once attached to it one that is very widespread in France, namely, how once a year, most usually at midnight on Xmas Eve, menhirs and the stones of certain dolmens go down to the streams or rivers to drink, disclosing stores of fairy gold beneath their bases ; but woe to him who steps down into the hole to steal the treasure ; for as the last stroke of twelve sounds, the stone returns and crushes him to death.”† There is no hint of hidden treasure in the two instances I have just cited, but this element is supplied in the tale—whether historical or not does not concern us—of Molly Dreamer who is said to have spent much time digging into the Gatcombe Lodge barrow and others in the district in search of treasure. I have not come across any other actual instance of this belief attached to the Long Barrows of this district ; but it is still widely held of all sorts of barrows.

Another connecting link with the south is in the name Gwal-y-filiast—the Greyhound’s Lair. Are we to see in this a connection with the Dog of Death,‡ whose memory is not yet extinct in Devon and Cornwall ? Our present hold upon him is so slight that we must postpone further dealings with him until that region is investigated.

Links with the south and east are provided by the name “giant” associated with megalithic monuments. Only one instance of this association occurs in this region, but there must be many more hidden in tithe maps and in the memories of a few countrymen of the old sort. Near Bisley are two upright slabs, the remains of a Long Barrow, called the Giant’s Stones, and the field adjoining that in which they stand is called Giant’s Ground. The Tombe dei Giganti of Sardinia, which are nothing but chambered Long Barrows of a particular type, are instances from the south ; and in the east we find the Hunenbedden and Jættes-

\* *Transactions of the Guernsey Society of Natural Science*, 1921, p. 44.

† For Cornish parallels see R. Hunt, *Popular Romances of the West of England*, 3rd edition, 1881, pp. 179, 187.

‡ See Colonel de Guérin, *op. cit.*, p. 36.

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tuer of Holland and Denmark. The significance of the term is difficult to determine ; how old is it ? We know that in England it has a respectable antiquity, for Geoffrey of Monmouth records the old name of Stonehenge as being " chorea gigantum " (" chorea " there is probably a Latinization of " gorsedd.") This very natural attribution of huge oblong graves and the like to huge men is not likely to have been made by the people who set them up. It is more likely that it dates from a time when the megalithic religion—if one may be so bold as to speak of such—was already fading away.

A similarly late origin may be given to the tale about Wayland's Smithy and the invisible blacksmith. It is a tale of the Iron Age, not of the Stone Age. The presence of an important Iron Age camp on Uffington Hill close by, and of pits of the same period immediately to the north east, is quite sufficient to account for the legend. A similar tale is said to have been recorded by Pytheas about Stromboli, the Forge of Vulcan [Schol. Apollon. Rhod. iv. 761; Schol. Callim. Hymn. Dian. 47; references quoted by Sir Clements Markham in *Geographical Journal*, vol. I (June, 1893), p. 523, where an excellent account of Pytheas' voyage and discovery of Britain in the 4th century B.C. is given].

The Long Stone at Minchinhampton provides us with yet another clue to ancient practices ; it is said that ricketty children were passed through the hole in it to cure them. The existing hole is much too small to allow of this, but the custom may have prevailed when the burial chamber was more perfect. Speaking of La Pierre Percée in Guernsey, Colonel de Guérin says\* :—" Pierced megaliths were considered to possess medical virtues, and in France have frequently been Christianised by being dedicated to some saint. They are resorted to even at the present day in many parts by sufferers from various maladies, who either rub the part affected against the stone, or pass the diseased limb through the hole in the hopes of cure." There is no reason to suppose that the hole in the Long Stone is artificial, and it is certainly not analogous to the perforated stones found in certain burial-chambers. It is however, brought into direct connection with them by this custom.†

\* *Op. cit.*, p. 34.

† For perforated stones in Scotland, see D. Wilson, *Prehistoric Annals*, 1863, pp. 142-146 ; in Cornwall, R. Hunt, *Popular Romances of the West of England*, 1881, pp. 171, 299 ; other instances in *Folk Memory*, by W. Johnson (Oxford, 1908), pp. 127-8.

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There is a widespread popular idea that "megalithic" stones of all kinds are so firmly fixed in the ground that they cannot be moved; that they extend as far below the ground as they do above, or further; and that attempts to move them in the past have failed completely, the tackle having broken at the first pull, or have been followed by evident signs of supernatural wrath. I was told that the Hoar Stone at Swell was thus firmly fixed, ten feet below the ground. A similar legend is attached to the Whispering Knights, and we shall come across it again in other regions. The "excavation" of Ty Illtyd in the 17th century is said to have been discouraged by thunder and lightning, a very common tale which I have often heard told of round barrows in Wessex. Of course all these stories are devoid of any basis in fact. The ease with which the stones can be moved, and *have* in many cases been moved, will be clear to readers of the following notes. Nothing indeed, is so strange as the very shallow depth of the holes in which the stones usually stand (those of Avebury are often barely a foot or two in the ground). There is also an idea that it brings bad luck to move them, an idea which is of course, incompatible with the stories of immovability. One cannot help wondering whether there may not linger in these tales some dim remembrance of the great hauling and pulling which must have taken place when the monuments were erected. There is a suggestive persistence in the accounts of powerful teams of horses harnessed to uproot the stones; and may not the primitive ropes have often given way under the strain?

Stories of underground passages are told of the barrows at Lodge Park and Lamborough Banks. The significance of these is doubtful.

I was told that soldiers were thought to be buried in the Long Barrow at Blackquarries Hill. This—and the equivalent of "men killed in battle"—is the usual belief of the origin of nearly all barrows. It seems to be a natural explanation invented to account for burials not in consecrated ground. The countryman cannot imagine a time when his village church was not; and it was only in times of war that men would be buried in so unorthodox a place.

Thurnam, however, gives (*Arch.* xlii, pp. 202, 204), a quotation from Beowulf which, with his comments, is of great interest. "In the very early Anglo-Saxon poem of Beowulf, there is a notice of what was evidently a chambered tumulus, the main features of which are described with considerable minuteness. In its recesses were treasures,



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—weapons and rich ornaments and vessels of heathen gold,—watched over, as the story goes, for three hundred winters by a dragon. The barrow was of stone, *with a passage under it unknown to men* (italics mine), the work of giants, the cave within built up with stone arches and made fast on props.”

Beneath the hoary stone  
Under the earth-mound  
On giants' work he gazed.  
The eternal cave held fast  
On props, with vaults of stone.

(*Beowulf*, C. 34, 36, 37).

In this passage the following points should be noted : (1) the name “hoar stone,” so common in England also ; (2) the mention of an earthen mound as a recognized component part of a chambered barrow ; (3) the attribution to giants ; (4) the description of a burial-chamber formed of upright slabs, and (doubtless) corbelled roofing.

I have not been able to discover the source of the first line of the above translation, but the following is the original version of the rest :—

Seah on enta geweorc  
Hu tha stan bogan  
Stapulū faeste  
Ece eorþ-reced  
Inna healde.

(*Beowulf*, II. 2717-2719).

Literally translated this is :—“ He saw giants' work, how the stone bow, fast on supports, held within the eternal earth-house.”

A curious story is attached to the field next (on the north) to that in which Woodbarrow is situated. It is called Royal Oak, and I was told by an old countryman (Frederic Norman, of Chedworth) that the name was applied to an oak in the adjacent wood which broke into leaf “a fortnight afore the rest.” The story *may* have no connection with the barrow, but I cannot help thinking that it has.

It is difficult to see any other than the obvious meaning in the rhyme relating to the King Stone at Rollright :—

If Long Compton thou canst see\*  
Then King of England shalt thou be.

A parallel may be cited from not far off in Northamptonshire. Speaking of the tradition of a battle between Saxons and Danes at Danes-

\* This is now possible, since the Long Barrow which obstructs the view northwards has had its height reduced by ploughing. But the King Stone is not yet King of England.

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more, Northants, Hamper says :—\* “ the people there have a notable rhyme, which they make the Danes to say upon the point of battle. ’Tis this :—

If we can Padwell overgoe  
And Horestone we can see,  
Then Lords of England we shall be.

Padwell is a noted flush spring in Edgcote grounds ; Horestone, a famous old stone on the borders of Warwickshire in Wardlinton field (co. Oxon).”

A similar type of story is quoted in *Leland’s Collectanea* (Hearne, 1774, vol. 3, p. 91) :—The ancient ford of Rithpencarn “ ad quod publica strata ducebat ” across the Nant-pentarn near Newport, Monmouth ; “ de quo Merlinus Sylvester mentionem faciens, in haec verba prorupit :—‘ Cum fortem lentiginosum in dextrales Britones irruere videris, si Rithpencarn transierit, Cambriae vires noveris enervare.’ ”

The Folklore of the Rollright district has been so fully described by Sir Arthur Evans that I have decided, with his permission, to reprint *verbatim* that portion of his article (including footnotes) on the Rollright Stones.†

### THE FOLKLORE OF ROLLRIGHT by Sir Arthur Evans.

“ The folklore of which the Rollright stones have become the centre is of the highest interest, and it would be difficult to find any English site in which it is more living at the present day. I have myself taken down from the lips of the country people in the immediate neighbourhood, but especially about Little Rollright, a quantity of tales relating to the stones ; and though the stories were generally prefaced by an explanatory statement that the teller of them simply repeated what he had heard, and that such things could not really have happened, there was often a reserve of half-belief in the old tales.

“ With regard to the King-stone and the circle, or the ‘ King’s men ’ as they are called, the main outlines of the story are as follows :—

“ A certain King—the name is not, as a rule, remembered ‡—

\* *Arch.* xxv, 54, quoting “ Morton, p. 542.”

† *Folklore*, Vol. vi, 1895, pp. 18–33.

‡ Only once, in answer to many enquiries, I was told that he was sometimes called King Charles. Mr. Hurst heard him spoken of as “ King Billy ” which recalls the Breton “ Roi Guillaume,” attached to similar monuments.

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had set forth at the head of his forces to conquer all England. But as he went up the hill on which Rowldrich stands, there appeared to him the Witch\* to whom the ground belonged. The king was now within a few steps of the crest of the hill from which the village of Long Compton would be visible in the combe below, when she stopped him with the words 'Seven long strides shalt thou take,'† and

"If Long Compton thou canst see,  
King of England thou shalt be."

"The King, who now thought his success assured, cried out exultingly,

"Stick, stock, stone,  
As King of England I shall be known."

"So he took seven strides forward, but lo! and behold, instead of looking down on Long Compton, there rose before him the long mound of earth which still stands before the King-stone, and the Witch said :

"As Long Compton thou canst not see  
King of England thou shalt not be.  
Rise up, stick, and stand still, stone,  
For King of England thou shalt be none ;  
Thou and thy men hoar stones shall be  
And I myself an eldern tree."‡

"Thereupon the King and his army were turned into stones where they stood, the King on the side of the mound, and his army in a circle behind him, while the Witch herself became an elder tree. But some day, they do say, the spell will be broken. The stones will turn into flesh and blood once more, and the King will start as an armed warrior at the head of his army to overcome his enemies and rule over all the land. The

\* In some accounts the Witch is called "Mother Shipton." In a communication of R. H. Cooper to *Notes and Queries* (1853, p. 58), entitled "Oxfordshire Legend in Stone" some Rollright stories are given. The practiser of the witchcraft is called "Magician" but no such expression is known to the villagers. With them it is always a "Witch."

† In other versions the King uses the words himself. The "seven strides" are also mentioned in a note on the Rollright stones by J. W. Lodowick (*Notes and Queries*, 1876, p. 291). Mr. Lodowick's informant, an old man born and bred at Great Rollright, called the King "a Danish King," but we see here probably the influence of literary conjectures like those of Camden about Rollo the Dane.

‡ This is the best version that I myself have been able to hear from the country people. The epithet applied to the stones is uncertain. Another version has "Fall down, King," instead of "Rise up, stick"; but the latter, referring to the metamorphosis of the Witch herself, is decidedly the better version. Another version runs, "Rise up, mound, and stand still, stone."



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last touch sets us thinking of Arthur at Avilion or Barbarossa in the cave at Kyffhäuser. Some say that there is a great cave beneath the King-stone, and according to some the same exists beneath the circle too.

“The Witch-Elder still watches over the victims of her magic. As to the exact position of the tree, however, the tradition is shifting. According to some accounts it used to stand in the field not far from the dolmen called the “Whispering Knights.” Some say that it was near the circle, but was blown down not many years ago. Others say that it is to be found in the hedge by the road not far from the King-stone, or further in the field beyond the mound, where an elder bush that stood by a large stone was some years since pointed out to a friend as “the Witch.” As a matter of fact the elder still grows in luxuriant clumps along every hedgerow and wherever a waste patch is to be found in the country round. When the district was wilder the stones must have been surrounded by a dense elder thicket. Indeed the idea may well have grown up that Dame Elder had turned the King and his army into stone for molesting ‘her ancient solitary reign.’

“The proof that the elder is a witch is that it bleeds when it is cut. And with regard to this I came upon a remarkable tradition, which an old woman, the wife of a man of eighty, told me she had heard many years ago from her husband’s mother. On Midsummer Eve, when the ‘eldern tree’ was in blossom, it was the custom for people to come up to the King-stone and stand in a circle. Then the ‘eldern’ was cut, and as it bled ‘the King moved his head.’\* It is to be observed that this breaking of the spell by blood-letting itself fits on to a very widespread superstition regarding witches, of which I found many surviving expressions in the neighbouring village of Long Compton. They say there that if you only draw her blood, ‘be it but a pin’s prick,’ the witch loses all power for the time.

“For the ‘eldern-tree’ to bleed it must be in blossom. The more sceptical spirits amongst the country people explain the matter by the catch, ‘If you cut the elder with your hand on it, it will bleed,’ but among the children at least the more literal belief in the bleeding elder has not died out. An old man of Little Rollright told me that some years ago he was up by the stones and a ploughboy asked him whether it was really true that the elder-tree bled if it was cut. . . ‘Lend me

\* This turning round of the King-stone is paralleled by many French legends, the favourite time being mid-day or at the sound of the Angelus.

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your knife,' said the old man, and forthwith stuck it into the bark. 'Won't you pull it out?' said the boy. 'Pull it out yourself!' was the reply, but the boy was too scared to do so. It was only at last, as they were about to go home for the night, that the boy, fearful that he would lose his knife altogether, approached the tree 'tottering with fright and all of a tremble,' and snatching it out, rushed away without waiting to see whether the tree bled or not.

"In these interesting superstitions we see traces of a time when the elder-tree was itself regarded as a supernatural being, a Tree-Goddess akin to the Dryads of old, before human witchcraft was called in to explain this survival of primitive animism. The idea of the sacred tree bleeding when injured is very widespread, and recalls the oak of Ceres described by Ovid\* :

"Cujus ut in trunco fecit manus impia vulnus  
Haud aliter fluxit discussa cortice sanguis  
Quam solet, ante aras ingens ubi victima taurus  
Concidit, abrupta cruor e cervice profundi."

"The special superstitions attached to the elder are perhaps explained by the effects of drinks such as are prepared from its berries† and blossoms. We learn from one of Andersen's fairy tales that those who drink of elder-flower tea see the 'Elder Mother' (Hyldemoer) herself in their dreams, seated amidst her sweet-scented flowers and foliage. In Denmark the tree itself has been seen to move about in the twilight. In Nether-Saxony before undercutting an elder, it was usual to go down on bended knees and pray as follows: 'Dame Elder, give me some of thy wood, and I will give thee some of mine when it grows in the forest.'‡ In Ireland the elder is regarded as unholy. Of the early association of this tree with witchcraft in this country, a record is preserved in the canons of King Eadgar§, which speak of the 'vain practices that are carried on with elders.'

\* *Met.*, VIII., 742.

† The blood-red berries themselves partly account for the lingering on of the superstitious belief in the quasi-human life of elder trees. In parts of Essex the dwarf-elder is called "Dane's blood."

‡ Arnkiel, I., 179. Thorpe, *N. Myth*, II, 168: "As I in my younger days have heard and seen." See on the Elder Cult, R. Perrott, "Gleanings of Legendary Mythology," in *Arch. Camb.*, 1863, 226. In Sudermanland, Sweden, the juniper bleeds when cut. The belief in the magical virtues of elder-springs is widespread in England and elsewhere.

§ Cap. 16. Thorpe, II, 248.

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"The fairies dance round the King-stone of nights. Will Hughes, a man of Long Compton, now dead, had actually seen them dancing round. 'They were little folk like girls to look at.' He often told a friend who related this to me about the fairies and what hours they danced. His widow, Betsy Hughes, whose mother had been murdered as a witch, and who is now between seventy and eighty, told me that when she was a girl and used to work in the hedgerows, she remembered a hole in the bank by the King-stone, from which it was said the fairies came out to dance at night. Many a time she and her playmates had placed a flat stone over the hole of an evening to keep the fairies in, but they always found it turned over next morning.

"Chips were taken from the King-stone 'for luck,' and by soldiers 'to be good for England in battle.' Betsy Hughes told me that her son, who had gone to India as a soldier, had taken a chip with him, 'but it brought him no luck, for he died of typhus.' A man told me that he had been offered as much as a pound for a chip at Faringdon Fair; and the Welsh drovers who used to trench the road with their cattle before the railway was made, used continually to be chipping off pieces, so that formerly the stone was much bigger than it is now.\* A man at Great Rollright gave me a chip that he had kept in his house for years.

"Notwithstanding the prevalence of this practice there were many who held that to do an injury to the stones was fraught with danger. In Wales one of the most frequent punishments that falls upon those who thus transgress against the stones is the breaking down of the transgressor's waggon†, and this belief still survives at Rowldrich. A ploughman informed me that one day a man who was driving along the road from Banbury swore to a friend who was with him that he would carry off a chip of the King-stone 'though his wheel locked.' He got down from his cart and chipped a piece off the stone, but when he tried to drive on he found that one wheel was locked in such a way that nothing he could do would make it go round again.

"A curious kind of sanctity seems to linger about the spot. As one of my informants—a well-to-do farmer of the neighbourhood—was

\* This is corroborated by a writer in *Notes and Queries* (1859, p. 393), who on visiting Rowldrich was informed by his local guide that the stones were daily diminishing "because people from Wales kept chipping off bits to keep the Devil off."

† Cf. Barnwell, "On some South Wales Cromlechs," *Arch. Camb.*, 1872, p. 135.

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going along the road at the top of the hill one Good Friday, he met a labouring man that he knew, who stopped him and said, 'Where do you think I be going? Why, I be a going to the King-stones, for there I shall be on holy ground.' The man who told me this said that 'Some think the place was consecrated ground in the old Romish days.' It appears, moreover, from a passage in Stukeley, that the oblong hollow by the King-stone was in old times a place of festal pilgrimage. Stukeley\* relates that near the 'Archdruid's Barrow,' as he calls the mound, 'by that called the King-stone, is a square plot, oblong, formed on the turf. Hither on a certain day of the year the young men and maidens customarily meet and make merry with cakes and ale.' He himself suggests that 'this seems to be the remain of the very ancient festival here celebrated in memory of the interr'd for whom the long barrow and temple were made.' However this may be, it seems highly probable that the Midsummer's Eve gathering described to me by the old woman, when the blossoming elder was cut, and the merrymaking described by Dr. Stukeley, were one and the same festival.

"Various other traditions are attached to the King-stones, the name by which the stone circle as well as the 'King' himself are known to the inhabitants. The King-stones and the 'Whispering Knights' of the neighbouring dolmen are said to go down the hill at midnight to drink of a spring in Little Rollright Spinney. According to some accounts they go down every night when the clock strikes twelve; according to others at certain special seasons, 'on Saints' days, for instance.' What is more, the gap in the bushes is pointed out through which they go down to the water. In some versions of the tale, the King† also goes down to the stream at the same hour with his men; but the others say that 'the King goes down to the water to drink when he hears the clock strike twelve,' meaning, as my informant was at pains to explain to me, that as he cannot hear the clock he stays where he is. One sceptic informed me that he had passed by the stones many a time at midnight and never seen them move. Here we certainly seem to be on Celtic ground, and recall the Breton tales of how the stones at Carnac go down to the sea on Christmas Eve, or how those on the heath at Plouhinec once every hundred years rush hurtling down 'like a troop of drunken giants'

\* *Abury*, p. 13.

† Sometimes, too, the King's men with him. In some accounts the stones descend to drink at a stream by Long Compton.

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to drink at the Intel brook.\* Once a year the 'Pierre de Minuit' goes to drink in the Yonne. Legends of the kind seem very widespread, not only in Brittany but in other parts of France, where megaliths are found†. They recur in Ireland, where, for example, the white boulder of Cronebane‡ goes down every Mayday morning to wash at the Meeting of the Waters. The superstition does not seem to be unknown elsewhere in our own island.§

"At midnight, again, the stones of the circle become men again for a moment, join hands, and dance round in the air. This dance recalls the *Chorea Gigantum*, or 'Giants' Dance,' which was transported, as Giraldus Cambrensis tells us, from Ireland to Salisbury Plain, and is better known as Stonehenge. In Cornwall, indeed, the usual name for such stone circles is Dawns-mên, or the Stone-dance; and Borlase observes that 'in the circular figure there is a very ancient dance or play ('tis called *Trematheeves*) still practised among the Cornish. §§' In Cornwall the tale usually runs that they were men turned into stones for dancing on Sunday.

"These circle stones at Rollright cannot be counted. Men have come from a distance and tried over and over again to reckon up their number, but they never could count them twice the same. †† A baker once

\* See Émile Souvestre, *Le Foyer Breton*, p. 186, *seqq.*

† Examples are collected by S. Reinach. "Les Monuments de pierre brute dans le langage et les croyances populaires" (*Rev. Archéologique*, 1893, p. 343). The French stones generally go down on Christmas Eve, once a year or once a century.

‡ Co. Wicklow. See *Folklore Record*, v. 170.

§ A similar belief attaches itself to King Arthur and his knights in the Cadbury folklore. They come riding down from Camelot to drink of the waters of a spring by Sutton Monks Church on the eve of every Christmas Day. (J. A. Bennet, *Cadbury*, p. 4). According to another account related to me by Mrs. Church, King Arthur goes down to drink on St. John's Eve, and anyone he meets, if not of perfectly pure life, he strikes dead.

§§ Borlase, *Antiquities of Cornwall* (Oxford, 1754), p. 183. In Cornwall and elsewhere the explanation that these are dancers turned into stone "for dancing on the Lord's Day" is very general. So too of "Hurlers."

†† A similar version of this is given in *Notes and Queries*, No. 168. "You will hear of a certain baker who resolved not to be outwitted, so hied to the spot with a basketful of small loaves, one of which he placed on every stone. In vain he tried; either his loaves were not sufficiently numerous or some sorcery displaced them, and he gave up in despair." On another occasion, according to Mr. Thomas Beesley, in his paper on the Rollright Stones, communicated to the North Oxfordshire Archæological Society in 1854 (*Trans.*, Vol. 1, p. 63), a man who wished to count the stones placed his basket on the stone at which he began, but when he thought he had completed the circle and looked for his basket it had been spirited away.



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swore that he would count the stones. So he baked a quantity of penny loaves, and set a loaf on every stone, but when he tried to count his loaves, he could not reckon up the number rightly, for he always found one stone without a loaf, and however often he laid them on there was always one missing. 'The man will never live who shall count the stones three times and find the number the same.' The superstition that the stones cannot be counted is found in the case of the ruined dolmen at Aylesford known as the 'Countless Stones' and elsewhere in the account already referred to of the 'Marvels of Britain,' inserted in Nennius' History. So, too, in Sir Philip Sidney's poem on the Seven Wonders of England it is said of the Stones of Stonehenge, 'No eye can count them just.' There appears a similar tale of the tomb of Anir, son of Arthur Knight, which cannot be measured. Sometimes the length appears six foot, sometimes nine, sometimes fifteen, but the measurement never comes out the same.

"The 'Whispering Knights' are traitors who, when the King with his army hard by were about to engage with the enemy, withdrew themselves privily apart, and were plotting treason together, when they were turned into stone by the Witch. Some, however, say that they are at prayer. I was told that once upon a time the big flat stone (the capstone) was taken away to make a bridge across the brook at Little Rollright.\* It took a score of horses to drag it down the hill, for at first it would not move, and they had to strain and strain to get it along till every bit of the harness was broken. At last they got it to the brook by Rollright Farm, and with great difficulty laid it across to serve as a bridge. But every night the stone turned over back again and was

\* According to another account at Long Compton. In *Notes and Queries*, 1876, p. 291, appears the following version of the story. "It was said that a miller in Long Compton thinking the stone would be useful in damming the water of his mill, carried it away and used it for that purpose, but he found that whatever water was dammed up in the day disappeared in the night, and thinking that it was done by the witches, and that they would punish him for his impertinence in removing the stone, he took it back again; and, though it required three horses to take it to Long Compton, one easily brought it back." In another version, given in *Folklore Record* (II, 177), the stone is wanted by a farmer for his outhouse. In taking it down-hill his waggon is broken and the horses killed. Next his crops failed, cattle died, etc. His only remaining horse is put into a cart and takes it up with ease. Then all goes well with him.

The number of the horses on the two occasions varied in the different accounts given me. In one case it was 40 and 1, in another 21 and 3, in others 12 and 8, 8 and 1, 6 and 1, 23 and 1; but in most versions the stone was dragged up again by a single horse. At Long Compton the stone is said to have been taken down to a brook in "the Hollow" on that side of the hill which takes its rise beneath some ancient elms.

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found in the morning lying on the grass. So when this had happened three nights running they saw that the stone must be taken back to whence it came. This time they set a single horse to it, and the single horse took it up the hill quite easily, though it had taken twenty times that number to drag it down, and that they could hardly do. With regard to this tale I found generally the most absolute belief among the country people, one man going so far as to say that there were those now living who had spoken to men who had helped to bring the stone down and up again, and 'that it was done in Farmer Baker's day who was not so very long dead.' Stukeley at the beginning of the last century had heard the same story in a somewhat different shape. A man who had removed one of the larger stones was smitten with remorse or religious fear, and according to one version of the story as it is still told, 'Farmer Baker had no rest' till he had taken the stone back to its fellows. So, too, at Stanton Harcourt there is a tradition that one of the 'Devil's Quoits' was removed to make a bridge and then replaced. No doubt in its original form the tradition took the same poetical shape as at Rollright; but in the rationalized version that has been preserved, the stone was simply replaced by a member of the Harcourt family. But the essence of the Rollright story, the refusal of the stones to stay at the spot to which they had been removed, reappears in one of the earliest bits of old British folklore that has been preserved to us. Nennius, in his account of the 'Marvels of Britain,' relates that in the land of Buelt is a stone on a cairn with the imprint of the foot of the dog of Arthur Knight, and which Arthur himself set up. 'And men come and carry off the stone in their hands for the space of a day and a night, and next day it is found again upon the cairn.'\*

\* Nennius, *Historia Britonum*, 73. "Est aliud mirabile in regione qui dicitur Buelt. Est ibi cumulus lapidum et unus lapis superpositus super congestum, cum vestigio canis in eo. Quando venatus est porcum Troynt, impressit Cabal, qui erat canis Arthuri militis, vestigium in lapide, et Arthur postea congregavit congestum lapidum sub lapide in quo erat vestigium canis sui et vocatur Cain Cabal. Et veniunt homines et tollunt lapidem in manibus suis per spacium diei et noctis, et in crastino die invenitur super congestum suum." In a mediæval collection of the *Mirabilia Britanniae*, published by Hearne as an appendix to his edition of *Robert of Gloucester* (Vol. II, p. 572, *seqq.*), there is a similar tale. "Lapis est non magnus in vertice montis quem si quis portaverit spacio duorum miliarium vel quantumcumque voluerit subsequenti die sine dubio in eodem loco in vertice montis unde assumptus fuerit inveniri." (p. 574). Carn Cavall still gives its name to a mountain in the upper part of Bualth, or Builth, in Breconshire, and "on one of the cairns of this mountain is a stone that still bears the impression of the dog's feet (*Arch. Camb.*, 1874, p. 88; [This note continued on next page.]



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“ Similar stories of megaliths returning to the place whence they had been removed by impious hands are also rife in France. Thus a holy stone in Poitou carried away by the people of the district during the Revolution returned next day of itself. With reference to this M. Salomon Reinach† appositely compares the ancient legend of the Penates, who when transported from Lavinium to Alba returned to their own home.

“ Perhaps, however, the most interesting feature in the Rollright folklore, so far as concerns the ‘ Whispering Knights,’ is that the dolmen has become to the young girls of the neighbourhood a kind of primitive oracle. At least it has been so used within the memory of man. Old Betsy Hughes, of whom mention has already been made, informed me that years ago, at the time of the barley harvest, when they were often out till dusk in the fields near the ‘ Whispering Knights,’ one of the girls would say to another ‘ Let us go and hear them whisper.’ Then they would go to the stones and one at a time would put her ear to one of the crevices. But ‘ first one would laugh and then another,’ and she herself never heard any whispering. Another old crone told me that the stones were thought to tell of the future. ‘ When I was a girl we used to go up at certain seasons to the ‘ Whispering Knights,’ and climb up on to one of the stones to hear them whisper. Time and again I have heard them whisper—but perhaps, after all, it was only the wind.’ Who that has stood on the wooded steep that overhangs the ruined sanctuary of Dordona, and has heard the breeze rustling through the prickly leaves of its immemorial oak-wood, will not understand this primitive impression ?

“ Whispering stones of the same kind are known in the Pyrenees‡ ; and in other parts of France megalithic blocks are known to sing or talk, like the *Pierre qui chante* of the Yonne, and the two menhirs known as *Fistillerien* on the Isle of Sein§. It looks as if primitive oracles of this nature had once been widely diffused in the Celtic and Iberian lands.

*cf. Mabinogion*, II, 260). In another British legend of a similar nature the stone altogether refuses to be moved. In the “ *Vita Sancti Winifrede* ” (Rees, *Lives of the Cambro-British Saints*, p. 205), a certain knight tries to remove St. Beuno’s stone, which interferes with a mill-course. A hundred yoke of oxen fail, however, to remove it, and the knight himself, trying to stir it with his foot, his leg withers.

† *Op. cit.*, p. 344 ; *Varro de lingua latina*, v. 144.

‡ In the Glen of Larboust, *Bulletin de la Société d’Anthropologie de Paris*, 1877, pp. 241, 242, 244.

§ S. Reinach, “ Les Monuments de pierre brute dans le langage et les croyances populaires.” (*Rev. Archéologique*, 1893, pp. 337, 344).

## INTRODUCTION

"Some of the tales about Rollright appear already in 16th and 17th century writers. Camden's allusion has already been quoted. Stukeley\* repeats Camden's story of the men turned into stone, etc., and says, 'This story the country people for some miles round are very fond of, and take it very ill if anyone doubts of it: nay, they are in danger of being stoned for their unbelief. They have likewise rhymes and sayings relating thereto.' Further on† he says, 'The people who live at Chippin Norton and all the country round our first described temple of Rowldrich affirm most constantly, and as surely believe it, that the stones composing this work are a king, his nobles, and Commons turned into stones. They quote an ancient proverb for it concerning that tall stone called the King-stone :

' If Long Compton thou canst see,  
Then King of England shalt thou be.' "

"Stukeley himself notices that 'the very same report remains at the Druid temple of Stanton Drew,' Somersetshire. 'This noble monument is vulgarly called the Weddings; and they say 'tis a company at a nuptial solemnity thus petrify'd. In an orchard near the church is a cove consisting of three stones like that of the northern circle in Abury or that of Longstones; this they call the parson, the bride, and bridegroom. Other circles are said to be the company dancing; and a separate parcel of stones standing a little from the rest are call'd the fiddlers, or the band of musick.'

"Stonehenge, regarded as the 'Giants' Dance,' 'Long Meg and her Daughters,' near Penrith, and 'The Nine Ladies' near Bakewell in Derbyshire, are other English examples of the same kind of tradition that at once suggest themselves. The stone alignments of Carnac and Ashdown are armies turned into stone. Classical parallels, such as the transformation into rocks of the Sidonian maids, companions of Melicertes,‡ or of Niobe and her daughters, or biblical, such as Lot's wife turned into the pillar of salt, illustrate the same idea. But in the case of the megalithic blocks composing the stone circles of primeval days, this ever-recurring tradition of their having been originally human beings turned into stone is in all probability, in some sense, coeval with the monuments themselves.

\* *Abury*, p. 13.

† *Abury*, p. 83.

‡ Ovid, *Met.*, iv, 549 *seqq.* Dr. Stukeley cites this parallel.

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“ For the best commentary on these traditions we have in fact only to turn to certain parts of our Indian dominions, where megalithic piles in every respect the counterparts to those erected in Britain in prehistoric times are set up by the native tribes to this day. In their beliefs the connexion between the erection of these great stone monuments and the cult of departed spirits is brought out at every step. In some cases the setting up of these stones is not a mere honorary act, but the stone itself in some mysterious way personifies the departed and absorbs, as it were, his ghost. The Khassias, for instance, a very wild jungle tribe of Bombay, set up a tall rough slab of stone near the house representing the deceased, to which they make daily oblations. In their eyes, then, it is the actual person, as it were, in a stony form. So too the dolmens are in some parts regarded as themselves the deified spirit of the departed, and thus as a demon or god.

“ We have moreover an interesting trace of the former prevalence of such ideas in Western Europe in a passage of Aristotle referring to the sepulchral rites of the Iberians, the representatives of the older pre-Celtic population of Gaul, Spain, and Britain, from whom in a large measure the Celts themselves seem to have taken over their megalithic cult. Aristotle says\* that the warlike Iberians set pointed stones (*ὀβελισκοί*) round their graves, and that each of these stones placed round a warrior's grave represented a slain enemy.

“ If, as is probable, human sacrifice was resorted to at these primitive funerals, the stones set round the grave might actually represent, and according to the Indian notion even to a certain extent personate, a human victim. So we find the memorial stones set over the grave in more than one region regarded as a kind of equivalent for the deceased, and in later times carved with his image, at first rude like the Kamenaye Babe, or the Stone Women of the barrows that strew the Russian steppes, but in a more civilised society gradually assuming, as in ancient Greece, a more perfect or ideal likeness of the departed. It has been recently observed that many of the French megaliths contain traces of human features. Traditions such as those that still live on the site of Rollright and elsewhere, that these rude stone circles and dolmens and menhirs were once themselves flesh and blood, may I venture to think be traced back to those once widely prevalent primitive notions which transferred to the stone that marked the resting place of the departed something of

\* *Politics*, VIII, 2.

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his very material being—notions which lie at the root of so much later idolatry. Occasionally the dolmen itself is personified and represents the deified departed ; and in India, where every stage of this primitive belief may still be studied by modern observers, we find it leading up to local traditions regarding megalithic piles precisely similar to those that live on in our own folk-lore. At Shahpûr, for instance, in the Deccan, there is a great parallelogram of stones enclosing a low tumulus which contains layers of human ashes. One of these surrounding stones larger than the others is here supposed to be the chief and the others his men, and they are believed to be watching grey cattle in the middle space where stands the barrow.\*

“ It is only by going back within the primitive circle of such ideas as these that we can hope to find the clue to the ancient lore which is still handed on by these Oxfordshire villagers. The recurring tradition of the baker who brings small loaves, one for each stone and then tries to count them—may it not go back to the times when offerings of small cakes and food offerings were still made as in India at the present day to such hoar-stones ? The stones in this primitive belief had a being of their own—they might indeed be regarded, and often were regarded—as the stony dwelling places of souls that once were human. Could human kindness, then, refuse them such small offerings of food ? There, too, on the parched hill-top, how often might they pant for the water brooks below ! What more natural than that when the darkness of night threw over them its invisible mantle—at the hour when spells are broken—they too should snatch a momentary life and hasten down to quench the thirst of ages ? ”

## VII. PRESENT AND FUTURE STATE

The present state of the Long Barrows is deplorable ; and the future state of most of them will be still more so, unless measures are at once taken to preserve them. It is not enough to have scheduled some of them under the Ancient Monuments Act, excellent though that is. That protects them from their owners, but not from the casual visitor. To guard against the latter, only one really satisfactory method has been devised—an unclimbable iron railing. Unsightly though it is, it is yet no

\* Col. Meadows Taylor, “ Description of Cairns, Cromlechs, Kistvaens, and other Celtic, Druidical, or Scythian Monuments in the Deccan.” (*Trans. of R. Irish Academy*, 1862 [24], pt. II, p. 329).



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more so than the carved names of visitors or the remains of their cooking-places. That this destruction by trippers is really happening to-day was brought home to me at Belas Knap, where the capstone of the portal and once perfect wall—perhaps the oldest stone wall in England—which I saw on my first visit in 1920, had suffered irreparable damage when Mr. Herdman and I visited the barrow in 1922. We protect our ancient castles, and rightly, though they are relics of a regime that one might think better forgotten; but are we to allow the graves of our earliest ancestors to be desecrated without taking effective measures to preserve them? Surely these far older monuments deserve preferential treatment! They are the oldest structures we have—far older than castle-mound or Roman road, older than hill-top camp or bronze age barrow, as old perhaps as Stonehenge itself.

NOTE.—The five invasions which affected the south of England are those of the Beaker-folk, the Celtic peoples, the Romans, the Saxons and the Normans. Not all of them were equally destructive of that continuity of country life which is essential for the survival of primitive ideas. The greatest breaks were caused probably by the Celtic invaders, and by the Saxons. It is in regions which have been least invaded, or more precisely where alien *settlement* has been rare—such as the so-called “Celtic fringe,”—it is here that folk-lore is most abundant. Not the least of the difficulties of using folk-lore to reconstruct primitive religion is the difficulty of *unstratifying* the layers of tradition in a region like Wessex, where each invasion has left its deposit. Some go back no further than the Middle Ages; I suspect a mediæval (or at any rate post-Roman) origin for those tales which are identical in trivial details and nomenclature and which are told of similarly named sites geographically distant from each other. The story attached to Hangman’s Stones is of this type (See *Notes and Queries*, 12 S., XI, 50–52). The stories of supernatural frustration of building probably go back no further than the Saxon period. Recently extinct cults, such as that of the stag-masked dance, may have a palæolithic origin (See *Trans. Preh. Soc. East Anglia*, Vol. III, 1921, p. 457). But it is dangerous to generalise in the present state of our knowledge. The task of classifying folk-lore according to its origin is one for future investigators. It cannot profitably be undertaken until the main culture-periods and culture-circles have been determined. It is thus dependent upon the progress of prehistoric archæology which (I say it in no disparaging sense) has only just begun to emerge from what, following Professor Sir Flinders Petrie, one might call its archaic period. (See his *Revolutions in Civilization*, Harper Bros., 3/6).

# LONG BARROWS





## BERKSHIRE

### CHURN BARROW

Berkshire, 21 N.E.

Parish of Blewbury.

1\*.

Latitude  $51^{\circ} 32' 51''$ . Longitude  $1^{\circ} 14' 59''$ . Height above O.D. about 380 feet.

This mound is certainly a Long Barrow. It is 130 feet long and orientated due E. and W. It appears to have been under plough at some time, which will account for its present low elevation. There are no apparent signs of disturbance and no signs of ditches, but ploughing will account for the obliteration of both.

Visited September 18th, 1921.

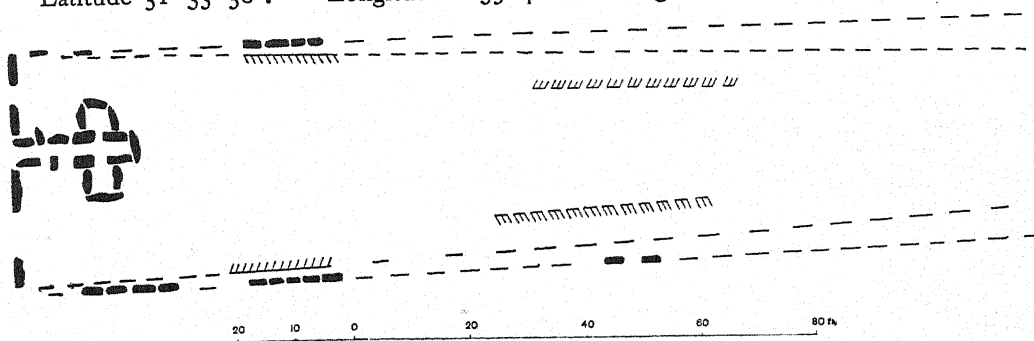
### WAYLAND'S SMITHY

Berkshire, 19 N.W.

Parish of Ashbury.

2\*.

Latitude  $51^{\circ} 33' 58''$ . Longitude  $1^{\circ} 35' 41''$ . Height above O.D. about 700 feet.



Surveyed by the Rev. Charles Overy.

The following account is mainly compiled from an article in the *Antiquaries' Journal* (July, 1921) by Mr. C. R. Peers and Mr. R. A. Smith. This article is the best and most up-to-date account of the most famous of all Long Barrows.

Wayland's Smithy is first mentioned by name in a charter of A.D. 955 giving the bounds of land "in loco qui dicitur *aet Cumtune* [Compton Beauchamp] juxta montem qui vocatur *Æscedune* [Ashdown]." The original Charter is in the British Museum (MS. Cott. Claudius, B.vi. fol. 40b), but it is printed in full in Kemble's *Codex Diplomaticus* (1847), vol. 5, No. 1172, p. 332. The phrase in question is the last in the bounds and runs as follows:—"Andlang fyrh oth hit cymth on thaet wide geat be eastan Welandes Smithan," "along furrow till it

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comes to the wide gate [or gap] on the east of Weland's Smithy." From this it is probable that the burial chambers were exposed then, and probably had already been rifled. "The earliest illustration known or likely to be found is a rough sketch by John Aubrey about 1670, reproduced in *Wilts Arch. Mag.* vii. (1862), 323 [and also in the *Antiquaries' Journal* for July, 1921], from his [unpublished MS] *Monumenta Britannica* in the Bodleian Library. . . . The four prostrate slabs at the south end of the barrow proved, when completely laid bare, of imposing dimensions; and an east and west trench was dug to discover their original purpose. Not only were the sockets made for them in the chalk discovered, with small lumps of sarsen to act as wedges at their feet, but on the northern entrance, two flat rods of iron were taken out together. They were lying parallel to the foot of the jamb, one foot from the present edge of the trench opposite the foot of the slab immediately west of the surface. . . . Though a novel variety of the type they are evidently currency bars of Early British origin, such as Julius Cæsar described (*Bell. Gall.* v. 12), and no doubt saw during his invasions in B.C. 55-54. Apart from the expanded end the section is oblong and quite normal, the longer weighing when found  $11\frac{3}{4}$  ounces and the shorter just over  $12\frac{1}{2}$  ounces. After cleaning and treatment to prevent further rust by Dr. Alexander Scott, F.R.S., at the British Museum, the weights are respectively 11 oz. 30 grs. and 12 oz. 20 grs. The standard based on independent evidence is 11 oz. (4770 grains=309 grammes). Several papers have been published on this subject (*Proc. Soc. Ant.* xx. 179; xxii. 338; xxvii. 69; *Arch. Journal* LXIX, 424; *Classical Review*, 1905, 206).

"The discovery of currency on such a site inevitably leads to speculation. According to the legend, a traveller whose horse had cast a shoe on the adjacent Ridgeway had only to leave a groat on the capstone, and return to find his horse shod and the money no longer there. But the invisible smith may have been in possession centuries before the Saxon recognised him as Wayland, and the ancient Britons of Cæsar's time may have been in the habit of offering money here either in return for farrier's work or merely as a votive offering to the local god or hero. In Sicily a similar tradition can perhaps be traced back to the classical period. (*Archæologia*. xxxii., 324).\*

\* It has been recorded, on the authority of Pytheas, with reference to Lipari and Stromboli: see Elton, *Origins of English History*, 1890, pp. 400, 401, quoting Scholiast on *Apollonius Rhodius*, iv. 761. A somewhat similar legend is recorded of an unknown British site in Hearne's *Robert of Gloucester's Chronicle*, 1724, vol. II. p. 575. O.G.S.C.





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"Whatever the motive, we have to explain how the currency bars came to be buried at that particular spot, which was on the inner side of the enormous jamb and not accessible, even from the passage, when the mound was in existence. As matters now are there is no reason why treasure should have been buried there rather than inside the chamber; but a votive offering deposited at the base of the largest standing stone would have been most appropriate, and the suggestion is that one of the jambs at least was standing about 2,000 years ago. On that theory we must also presume that the surface was then much as it is now, else the position would have been unapproachable without a deep excavation. In other words, the find of currency bars not only points to a British predecessor of Wayland, but indicates that although this particular jamb was still standing, the Long Barrow had been already denuded to its present level in the first century before Christ."

Speaking of the original interments in the chamber Mr. Smith, in the paper quoted at length above, says:—"Nearly all the interior of the chamber had been previously dug over, but the lower levels of the western transept still contained some human bones in groups, though not in anatomical order. Here, as elsewhere, skeletons had been disturbed to make room for other burials, and it is probable that the dead were first buried outside and after a time disinterred, for the bones to be laid in the tomb, reserved no doubt for the greatest of their time. Here we found remains of perhaps eight skeletons, including one of a child, but their incompleteness points to a previous disturbance, perhaps in neolithic times. The absence of thigh bones in this case is remarkable, and only a few conclusions can be drawn. The best preserved skull belonged to an adult of middle age, probably male, with a cephalic index of 78.19. The mean indices of long and round barrow subjects being 74.93 and 76.70 respectively. It is therefore broader in proportion than the average brachycephalic Bronze Age skull, and may belong to an intrusive burial after the introduction of metal. . . . Near the middle of the western skirt of the barrow, three feet outside the line of standing stones and on the line of our trench BB, was found a skeleton buried in a crouched position, and lying on its right side, with the head to the north." It appeared to be that of a man of 5 ft. 2½ ins. in height, with slight muscular development and a cephalic index of 77.72. No grave furniture was found to give a clue to the date.

Proceeding to describe the construction of the mound Mr. Peers

## LONG BARROWS

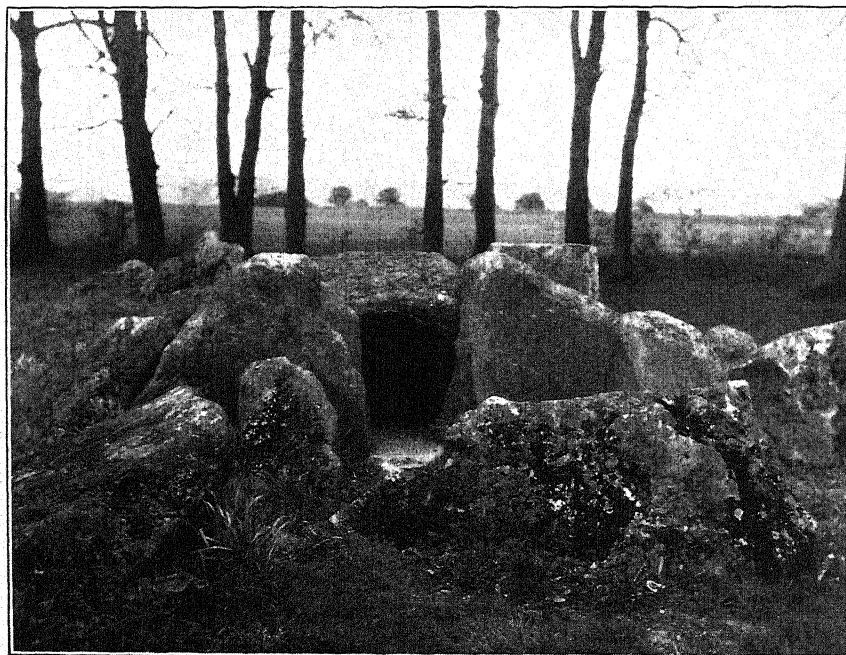
says :—"The mound is chiefly composed of the chalky surface soil, but in the southern or head end of the barrow there is a considerable portion of loose sarsen rubble, and this may have formed the principal material of the first sixty feet from the south, the chalky soil being only used as a substitute when the supply of stone failed. . . . The revetment is formed of sarsen rubble laid flat in irregular courses. A section mid-way in the barrow shows it to consist of an inner and an outer face, the former about two feet thick and the latter somewhat less, enclosing a core of hard chalk and soil, the whole being about six feet thick at the bottom with a batter of about  $45^{\circ}$  on the outer face ; just enough is left of the inner face to show at what angle it rose. . . . The greatest height of the revetment cannot have exceeded six feet at any time, and there are no evidences that it was ever carried right over the top of the mound.

"The facing was composed of slabs of stone of an average thickness of 14 ins. to 16 ins., set upright along both sides and presumably the north end of the barrow. It will be seen that they were not set parallel to the revetment, but starting against its east and west faces at the south end, diverge from it northward. Eleven stones remain on the east side, of which all but four have been disclosed by our excavations. One is undisturbed in its original position ; four are more or less upright, the rest have fallen outwards. On the west side only four stones, all fallen, have been discovered so far. It is notable that the filling between these stones and the revetment is of pure chalk unmixed with earth, in contrast to the material of the mound. The average height of the facing stones above ground-level was 3 feet." From the fact that the revetment on the western side of the barrow stands on the inner slope of a ditch, and that this ditch had apparently become partially filled in when the revetment was built, the writer (Mr. C. R. Peers,) suggests the possibility of the revetment being an afterthought, constructed after the mound, which latter was made (in part) from the materials excavated from the ditch. The absence of any space between the facing stones and the revetment at the south end where they converge, also suggests that they are of different dates ; but which is the earlier, or whether both belong to a later period than the original mound and chamber, was not determined. Nor was the presence of a ditch on the east side ascertained, though it seems very improbable that there should not be one to correspond with that on the west.

Speaking of the chamber Mr. Peers says :—"The upright stones are







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set in holes in the original ground surface, which, as far as we ascertained the depth, are comparatively shallow, but the strength to sustain the pressure of the mound against their sides was probably adequate when the monument was complete. The spaces between the stones were evidently filled with small dry-set rubble as usual. The northern stones of the two chambers and of the passage, now lean inwards, but this has probably occurred since the grave has been exposed. The construction of the southern part of the passage is interesting, there being on each side a stone set at an acute angle with the direction of the passage, and, on the west side at any rate, so much taller than the stones next it, that it could not have served to carry a cover-stone. I think that their object was to stiffen the side of the passage against lateral pressure, to which they obviously offer a greater resistance than the stones set with their long sides in the direction of the passage. . . . In a few instances, particularly on the inner faces of the east chamber, the stones have been carefully worked to a true face, with results which are precisely those obtained at Stonehenge." The author concludes by comparing the rectangular plan of the barrow with that of barrows at St. Nicholas, near Cardiff, S. Wales (*Arch. Camb.* 1915, 6S. XV., 253-320), and at Coldrum, Kent (*Four. R. Anthr. Inst.* 1913); to which may be added that at Stoney Littleton in Somerset, and several described in this monograph.

In *Man*, 1920, Mr. A. D. Passmore maintains that some of the stones have had their surfaces smoothed. "Some years ago an examination of the large area covered by Sarsen stones at Ashdown Park (which are in a natural position, and not placed in lines as stated by Waring and other authors) was undertaken by the writer [Mr. Passmore] with the idea of finding flat and comparatively smooth-faced stones similar to several now forming part of Wayland Smith Cave. . . . A careful inspection of scores of large stones proved that a flat or smooth surface does not exist here naturally—the surfaces are humpy and irregular. At the Cave, the S. stones of the E. and W. chambers, and the E. stone of the E. chamber, together with several in the passage leading from the edge of the mound into the chambers, are flat and smooth on their inner face. After the study mentioned above, the writer is convinced that they have been pounded into shape by the same process as those at Stonehenge. On the stone forming the southern upright of the entrance to the W. chamber are two cup-shaped hollows (facing the passage and low down) almost touching each other and roughly 3 inches in diameter; whether



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these are part of the old surface of the stone deliberately left by the ancient builders or are artificial is not apparent."

If these flat surfaces are due to pounding, as at Stonehenge—and it would not be difficult to determine this—a most important additional link is provided between Stonehenge and Long Barrows.\* The tooling at Stonehenge forms a ripple-marked surface, comparable with that of the unfinished granite obelisk at Aswan in Egypt†, though less regular; and the discovery of large sarsen mauls at Stonehenge proves that similar causes were responsible.

I admit however that I am by no means convinced that the stones of this burial chamber have been artificially made smooth.

The following is a list of some of the works where Wayland's Smithy is referred to, other than those quoted above: it is mainly taken from Messrs. Peers and Smith's article:—

*Chambers's Book of Days*, July 18, published 1888 (Vol. II. 83), (wrong drawing).

*Scott* (Sir Walter) Kenilworth.

*Wise* (Francis). A letter to Dr. Mead concerning some antiquities in Berkshire (Oxford, 1738, 35-9).

*Lysons* (Samuel). *Magna Britannia*, Berkshire, 1806, 215.

*Archæologia*, XXXII (1847), 315.

*Journ. Brit. Arch. Assoc.* XVI. (1860), 50.

*Colt Hoare* (Sir Richard). *Ancient Wilts* (1819), II, 47.

*The Mirror of Literature, Amusement and Instruction*, VIII (1826), 33; XXI (1833), 88.

*Intern. Congress of Prehistoric Archæology*, Norwich (1868), 38-44.

*Gough's Camden*, I., 221.

*Hughes* (Thomas). *The Scouring of the White Horse*, London, 1859, 222-225. Note N.

*Wilts Arch. Mag.* VII (1862) 321-333. ("On Wayland's Smithy and on the Traditions connected with it" by John Thurnam).

*C. P. Kains-Jackson*, *Our Ancient Monuments and the land around them* (1880) pp. 6 & 7.

*Archæological Review*, II, 1889, 314. (Comparisons with other similar megalithic monuments by Sir Arthur Evans).

*Singer, S. W.* *Wayland Smith; a dissertation on a tradition of the Middle Ages; from the French of G. B. Depping and Francisque Michel, with additions by S. W. Singer, and the amplified legend by Oehlenschläger*, London, 1847: xci+64 pp. [A full account of the legend in all parts of Europe].

*Man*, XX. Jan., 1920. Article No. 4; "Wayland Smith's Cave, Sarsen Stones at Ashdown Park, Berks., and Avebury, Wilts"; by A. D. Passmore.

\* For another see W.A.M. June, 1924.

† See Engelbach, *The Problem of The Obelisks*, 1924.

## BRECKNOCKSHIRE

### CARN GOCH

Brecknockshire, 41 N.E.      Parish of Llangattock.      6a\*.

Latitude  $51^{\circ} 51' 07''$ . Longitude  $3^{\circ} 08' 38''$ . Height above O.D., between 270 & 300 feet.

The following account presumably refers to the site marked "Garn Goch" on the O.S. map:—

"Some workmen recently engaged in clearing away a large heap of stones in Llangattock Park, the seat of his Grace the Duke of Beaufort, accidentally met with a cist or cromlech, consisting of four rude stones put up in the ground on their edges, while a fifth covers the top. On its being opened, a quantity of human bones were discovered, some of which soon crumbled to dust; but the bone of the arm and also the upper part of the jaw, part of the skull, and a row of teeth, were quite perfect, all of which were carefully collected and preserved. The size of the interior was 8 feet 6 inches long, 4 feet wide, reduced to 3 feet 10 inches at the other end, and 2 feet 2 inches high."

When I first visited the neighbourhood I heard indirectly that the monument in question was supposed not to be an antiquity and did not visit it. On August 17th, 1924 I visited it in company with Dr. Mortimer Wheeler, Director of the National Museum of Wales, and we agreed that the cairn was a long one of the same type as the other Brecknockshire examples. On the south-eastern side are the remnants of a large capstone, but for the rest it is impossible to make out any plan or order. In the wood close by on the east are a number of cairns which may be of natural origin.

*Gentleman's Magazine*, 1847, Pt. 2, p. 526 (quoted above).

### CROESLLECHAU

Brecknockshire, 23 S.W.      Parish of Bronllys.      3\*.

Latitude  $52^{\circ} 01' 93''$ . Longitude  $3^{\circ} 12' 49''$ . Height above O.D., 400 feet.

"In a field called Croeslechau about two miles eastward of this town or village [Talgarth] but in the parish of Bronllys and on a farm called Bryn-y-groes, is a cromlech, not merely interesting on account of its antiquity, but from the circumstance of a white thorn growing



## LONG BARROWS

close, and indeed under part of it, which has gradually raised the horizontal or covering-stone several inches out of its original position ; it is therefore not only venerable as a relic of very ancient days but as a natural curiosity." So wrote Theophilus Jones in 1809, and put a drawing of the " cromlech " on his title-page. In 1832 (but not before) the site was marked on the engraved one-inch O.S. map, from which the co-ordinates given above have been taken. Now the site is unknown and all memory of it has completely vanished in the neighbourhood. Mr. Evan Morgan has visited the site and reports that no traces of the " cromlech " were visible ; nor were enquiries of the farmer at Bradwys any more successful in identifying the site. It is not unlikely that the monument was destroyed when a new road was made at some date probably very soon after 1832. It appears that Bryn-y-groes Farm was situated about 200 yards S.W. of Lower Barn, where a house stood about 80 to 100 years ago ; on the old MS. 2" map of 1814 the farm of Bryn-y-groes is marked close to where the site of Croesllechau is marked on the 1832 edition.

Theophilus Jones, *Hist. of the County of Brecknock*, Vol. II. 1809, p. 338 (vignette on title-page, reproduced on opposite plate).

## CWM FFOREST

Brecknockshire, 29 S.W.

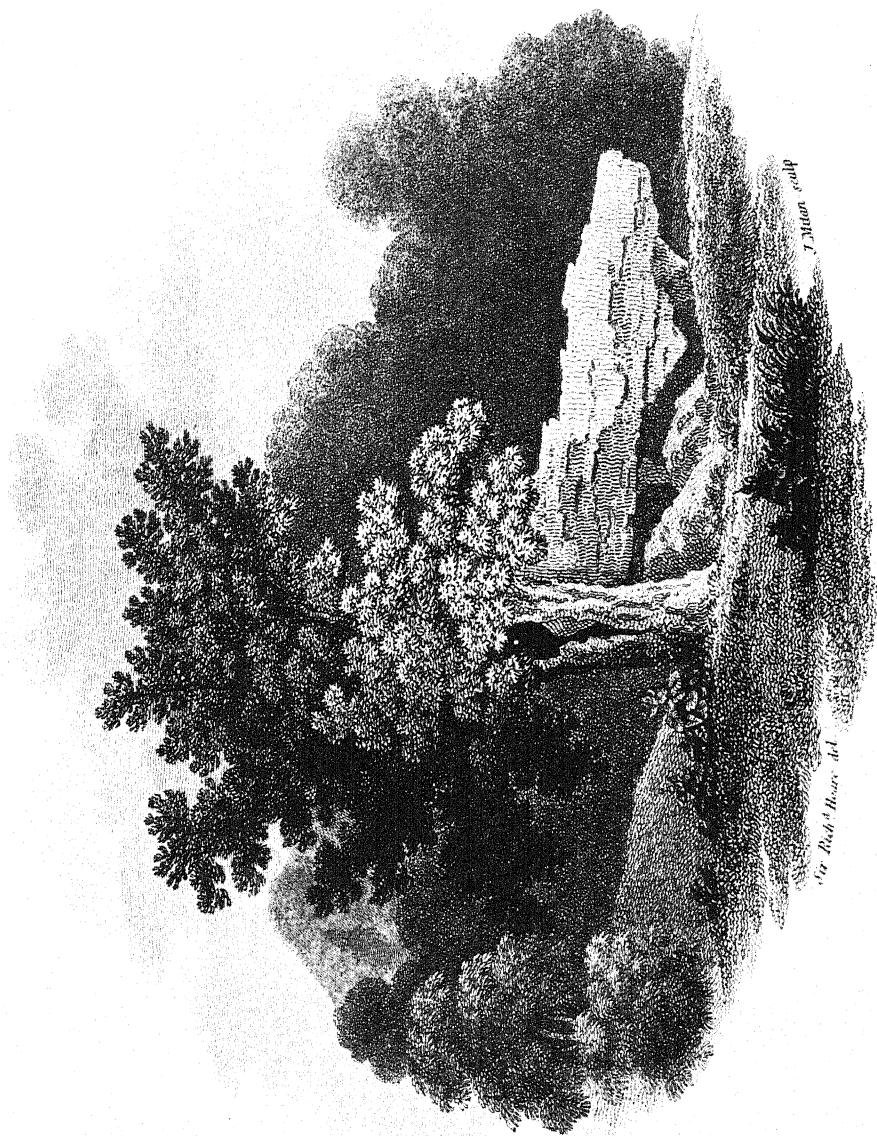
Parish of Talgarth. 10a\*

Latitude  $51^{\circ} 57' 25''$ . Longitude  $3^{\circ} 11' 20''$ .

Height above O.D., 900 feet.

This burial-chamber in a long mound was discovered on August 17th, 1924 by Dr. Mortimer Wheeler and myself. We made enquiries at Ty-isaf, since I had been told by Mr. Evan Morgan of Brecon that an undiscovered burial-chamber existed somewhere hereabouts. We were unable to locate it at first, though actually we passed within a few feet of it at one time. We were shown it by the occupier of Ty-isaf. The burial-chamber is hidden in a dense thicket of brambles and young saplings. It stands on the western edge of the steep valley of the Rhian-goll, the chamber being exposed at the south-east end of a mound. A capstone covers the south-eastern end, which is narrower than the rest, and may form a short passage to the chamber itself. The capstone is supported by dry walling which forms also the sides of the chamber proper. There are no upright slabs. There is a steep ditch or gully parallel to the





J. Mordaunt sculp

Wm. Richd. & B. Jones del

CROESLLECHAU



## BRECKNOCKSHIRE

mound and immediately below it on the south-western side, and some of the stones of which the mound or cairn is formed have fallen into it.

The site is a most unusual one.

### FFOSTYLL (NORTH)

Brecknockshire, 23 S.W.      Parish of Llanellieu.      4\*.

Latitude 52° 00' 23". Longitude 3° 11' 46". Height above O.D., a little above 1000 feet.

Length 120 feet. Remains of the burial-chamber are visible at the eastern end, consisting of five vertical slabs, two on each side and the fifth closing the eastern end of the chamber. Further west on the mound (which is quite well preserved) are two other large stones, one of them probably once the capstone covering the chamber described. The mound is distinctly egg-shaped; there are no certain signs of a surrounding wall. The east end and the centre have been much dug about.

This mound and the southern mound adjacent are thus described by the Rev. T. Price ("Carnhuanawc") in his "*Hanes Cymru* (History of Wales) 1842, p.32. (In Welsh; kindly translated for me in the extract given below by Mr. W. H. B. Somerset): "The most notable grave-mounds I saw in Wales are in the parish of Llanellieu, Brecknockshire, on the land of a farm called Ffos-y-tyll. The biggest of these mounds [*i.e.*, the northern] is 45 yards long, 20 yards wide and about 2 yards high; and they showed that they were full of cistvaens of some size—one of which was lately broken up for the sake of the stones. There are still enough left to show its size and its workmanship. It was 10 feet long, 5 feet wide and 8 feet deep, formed of great stones one at each end and two on each side and covered with corresponding stones."

The mound is oriented 67 degrees E. of true north, the wider and higher end being to the east.

Visited August 4th, 1921 and August 17th, 1924.

T. Price. *Hanes Cymru* (Hist. of Wales), 1842, p. 32.

*Western Mail*, November 29th, 1921 (C. E. Vulliamy).

*Arch. Camb.* LXXVI (7 S. Vol. 1.), 1921, 301.

## LONG BARROWS

### FFOSTYLL (SOUTH)

Brecknockshire, 23 S.W.

Parish of Llanellieu.

5\*.

Latitude  $52^{\circ} 00' 21''$ . Longitude  $3^{\circ} 11' 47''$ . Height above O.D., a little above 1000 feet.

This mound was visited on August 4th, 1921, when it was recorded that this and the adjacent one stood in a field, cultivation being carried on right up to the edge of the mound ; and that it had been much disturbed. It was also noticed that the remains of a passage or chamber were visible. The mound was subsequently explored by Mr. C. E. Vulliamy from whose account in *Arch. Camb.* the following description is taken :—

The axis is 21 degrees east of the true north. Both mounds had been disturbed. "At first glance [the southern one] appeared to have suffered a more searching devastation. Here I found that a vast amount of stone had been moved from the southern end, and there was considerable disturbance in the area which I expected to contain the principal cist. Furthermore a large covering-stone lay tilted on the face of the mound. On examination, I came to the conclusion that neither of these disturbances had touched the burial-chamber, which, though its form was not clear, was traceable in the centre of the highest part of the barrow. From information supplied by Mr. Gwilym, the tenant of the farm, I learned that stone had been removed from the lower [southern] end of the barrow about forty-five years ago, to supply material for road-making ; and at that time quantities of human bones had come to light. I could find no account of the higher [northern and central] disturbance." . . . The length of the mound is 108 feet and its greatest breadth about 65 feet. The burial-chamber is 11 feet by 4 feet. Arrangements were made to excavate it ; work was begun on September 20th, 1921 and lasted four days. "We found that the eastern side [of the burial-chamber] had collapsed inwards." The side-stones appeared to have been artificially trimmed ; their dimensions are from 2 feet 4 inches to 4 feet 2 inches in breadth, from 5 feet to 6 feet 6 inches in depth and from 4 inches to 8 inches in thickness. "A comparatively small slab which we found tilted against the northern end of the chamber may have been part of an additional covering-stone, since the main capstone is not large enough to have roofed the entire cist. . . . We had

## BRECKNOCKSHIRE

not attained a depth of more than a foot when we found a layer of burnt bones, mostly in very small fragments, too small for exact identification, except in a few cases, but for the most part apparently not human, and probably representing the remains of goats, oxen, pigs and other domesticated animals. There were a few pinches of charcoal in this stratum. At a depth of 2 feet to 3 feet 6 inches (but not lower) we discovered human remains in abundance, throughout the whole length of the chamber.

“ The bones were in the utmost confusion ; only in a few instances were they in anatomical relation to each other, and by far the greater number were split and broken.” The following is a summary of what was found :—

- 70 fragments of crania and lower jaws.
- 36 metacarpal, metatarsal and phalanges.
- 6 vertebræ.
- 30 detached teeth.
- 135 fragments of long bones.
- 240 miscellaneous fragments, including bones other than human.

“ Of the human remains the most interesting are :—

- (1) The frontal bone and greater part of left parietal of a small adult skull, remarkably dolichocephalic ;
- (2) A male frontal bone, with strongly marked supra-orbital ridges ;
- (3) Other portions of skulls.

“ . . . It was found that the remains were those of not fewer than nine individuals, of both sexes and various ages. I do not know how to account for :—

- (1) The absence of any fragment that could be definitely assigned to a pelvic bone ;
- (2) The surprisingly small number of vertebræ discovered ;
- (3) The fewness of carpal and metacarpal bones ;
- (4) The entire disappearance of the greater part of the skeletal remains, assuming that the bodies were buried intact. But it is probable that we are here dealing with an ossuary, in which only selections were deposited.



## LONG BARROWS

The best specimens were submitted to Sir Arthur Keith, and his report may be thus condensed :—

“The bones show the ‘dry, earthy texture’ and in some cases the ‘black, metallic surface impregnation’ which is characteristic of remains of ancient date. By an elaborate but reliable method of reconstruction it was found that the cephalic index of the best preserved cranium was 70—the skull was nearly 22mm. narrower than previously recorded neolithic skulls from Wales. The individual had a ‘very narrow, relatively high, and rather small head.’ Presumably the cranium is that of a man, about 40 years of age. Among the lower jaws was that of an old woman—‘she must have had a face cast in a small, almost delicate mould.’ The astragali show well marked ‘squatting facets.’ . . . Although the principal remains were inhumations, untouched by fire, Sir Arthur has identified, from fragments, the cremated remains of a youth and of a very young child. In addition to the non-human species mentioned above, there were parts of the skull and jaws of a cat.’ The people were of short stature, the adult males being estimated by Mr. Vulliamy at 5 feet 4 inches.

“No traces of pottery were discovered, but we found three pieces of flint within the cist. . . . Fragments of flint and occasional implements are scattered over the field in which the tumuli are situated, and over other fields in the vicinity.

“Photographs of the bones, plans of the barrow and chamber, and an account of the excavation have been placed with the official records of the Ancient Monuments Board for Wales (H.M. Office of Works). Typical specimens of the human remains were presented to the Royal College of Surgeons, and accepted by the President for the Museum of the College.”

This mound and the adjacent one (No. 4) are now both scheduled under the Ancient Monuments Act.

On a plan of this mound, kindly lent me by Mr. Vulliamy, he says :—  
“A recent excavation (July 4th, 1922) made by me outside the northern end of the chamber has revealed cremated burials (including that of a very young child). The interred remains of one adult, unburnt animal remains (pig or goat), fragments of rude pottery—impure clay mixed with quartz grains—and no fewer than 17 pieces of flint and chert, all



## BRECKNOCKSHIRE

showing signs of fire. Charcoal in streaks, burnt earth and burnt stones were found."

*Arch. Camb.* LXXVI. (7 S. Vol. 1), 1921, 301-305. (Plans of mound and chamber and section). *ib. id.* 1923 pp. 320-324.

T. Price, *op. cit.*

*Brecon and Radnor Express*, October 13th, 1921

## GWERNVALE

Brecknockshire, 41 N.E. Parish of Crickhowell. 6\*.

Latitude 51° 51' 55". Longitude 3° 08' 45". Height above O.D. 253 feet.

"This cromlech, one end of which adjoined the Brecon turnpike road on the south side, was immediately opposite Gwernvale, about half-a-mile from Crickhowell: it consisted as usual of a huge tablet of unhewn stone mounted upon five supporters pitched edgewise in the ground, the superincumbent stone or cover inclining to the south and open in the front to the north: it was placed on a high mound, long overrun with brushwood and brambles, and formerly there seem to have been stones placed edgewise also round what is now almost a semi-circle; whether before the turnpike road was made they extended so as to describe an irregular circle I know not; but I am inclined to think that the appearance of the spot was materially altered by the intersection of the highway; and that upon that occasion the workmen. . . anticipated our attempt to make discoveries under the cromlech; in that case the object, though far different from ours, was probably equally unsuccessful. . . . the experiment in 1804 proved nothing either way (as to the sepulchral or other object of the cromlech)."

The above somewhat guarded account by Theophilus Jones may be supplemented by an extract from an unpublished diary of Sir Richard Colt Hoare's, kindly contributed by Mr. A. D. Passmore who possessed the manuscript:—"Saturday, May 26th (1803). This morning was devoted to opening a cromlech or kistvaen adjoining the turnpike road near Crickhowell and opposite the house of Mr. Everett: with some difficulty the upper stone, measuring ten feet in length, being removed, we dug to the base of the surrounding upright stones, which had supported the recumbent one, but found no signs of an interment or relics; but a few pieces of charcoal seem to indicate cremation. [This does not follow at all.—O.G.S.C.] The history of the cromlech has not as

## LONG BARROWS

yet been sufficiently ascertained, and it remains a doubt whether it was designed for an altar or sepulchre. The kistvaen or stone chest was clearly designed for an interment."

The burial-chamber stands in an allotment close by the side of the Brecon-Crickhowell road, from which it is separated only by a wall. It lies on the south side of the road, nearly 200 yards east of the first milestone from Crickhowell and opposite the entrance drive to Gwernvale House. About eight large, upright slabs are still in position, they are about 5 feet in height. The plan of the chamber is polygonal, and the entrance (on the S.W.), is flanked by two uprights. Except for the disappearance of the capstone removed by Sir Richard Colt Hoare, the monument does not seem to have suffered much. It is probable that the orientation was from N.E.—S.W., which is what the orientation of the chamber and approach now is ; but the mound has almost vanished, though the earth being banked up much higher on the outer side of the stones forming the chamber proves that a mound existed. The chamber is now used as a receptacle for old pails, bottles and jam jars, and is probably, from its position, in considerable danger of destruction. Its interest does not appear to be realised locally.

Theophilus Jones, *History of the County of Brecknock*, Vol. II. 1809, 435.

Sir Richard Colt Hoare, *A Tour through Wales in 1803* (unpublished MS. in the National Museum of Wales, Cardiff).

## PEN-Y-WYRLOD

Brecknockshire, 17 S.E.

Parish of Llanigon.

7\*.

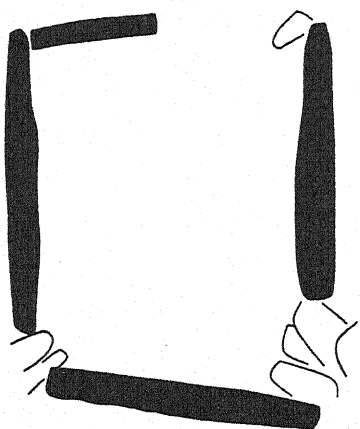
Latitude 52° 03' 05".      Longitude 3° 07' 50".      Height above O.D., about 850 feet.

This barrow is not marked on the 2nd edition (1905). It was being excavated at the time of my visit (August 12th, 1921) by the Rector of Llanigon, the Rev. W. E. T. Morgan, and Mr. George Marshall, F.S.A., of the Manor House, Breinton, Hereford. It is situated on a piece of waste land which has never been brought under cultivation, called locally "The Rocky Common." The mound itself appears to have no name, but was said by an inhabitant to have been known as "The Druid's Altar."

An account of this barrow was published by Mr. C. E. Vulliamy in *Man*, from which the following summary is compiled.

## BRECKNOCKSHIRE

The side-stones of the cist at the east end of the barrow had been visible for many years protruding above the level of the soil. The work of excavation "was undertaken by representatives of the Woolhope Club of Hereford. Unfortunately, the excavation was not carried out with much regard for method, and the most interesting material has been



PLAN OF CIST AT EAST END OF  
LONG BARROW, PEN-Y-WYRLOD.  
After Vulliamy. 1:50  
(The east end is at the top.)

collected subsequently from the piles of *débris* which were thrown up on either side of the cist." The barrow is rather a cairn than an earthen mound and consists of slabs of local sandstone. "Pear-shaped in plan, the greatest length is 60 feet and the greatest width about 33 feet. The axis of the cairn, along the line of greatest length is  $66^\circ$  east of true north, and the axis of the cist,  $62^\circ$ . The eastern end is much higher than the western." The dimensions of the cist are:—"North side, 7 feet 6 inches, south side, 8 feet 6 inches; west side, 6 feet 4 inches. The eastern slab is obviously split in half and the northern, though shown [on the plan] *in situ*, has tilted outward. The greatest dimensions of the side slabs are :—North, 6 feet 6 inches wide, 5 feet 3 inches high; south, 6 feet 5 inches wide, 5

feet 4 inches high; east (fragment) 2 feet 5 inches wide, 3 feet 8 inches high; west, 5 feet 8 inches wide, 4 feet 7 inches high. Excavations have been made at certain places, revealing, at the western end, two small blocks set on edge." I was informed by Mr. W. E. T. Morgan that charcoal had been found here but no burnt bones. "Large slabs protrude at three points; those on the northern and southern edges seem to mark the periphery of the cairn.

"The cist contained the osseous remains of several human individuals and of various domesticated animals, all in a very fragmentary condition; the only complete human bones being those of hands and feet. Professor Keith (I believe) has identified the human remains as those of men, women and children, of short stature and flat-footed, with the usual characteristics of the neolithic type." [In *Arch. Camb.* it is said that at least a dozen individuals were represented]. "In sifting the *débris*

## LONG BARROWS

I collected no fewer than 72 teeth, of which the greater number are human; many shards of coarse, reddish pottery; and three discarded flakes of flint—two with a milky white patination. The Rev. W. E. T. Morgan found two fragments of dark, lustrous flint. Charcoal has been found scattered throughout the cairn, but some of this appears to be recent.

"The most peculiar and baffling find, however, has been made by Mr. A. F. Gwynne of Glasbury. He discovered, at the spot marked with a cross, some dozens of small blue beads, of a glass-like substance, and tubes of vitreous paste, divided externally into rounded segments—precisely similar to those found in British barrows of the Early Bronze Age. Comment must be withheld until further light is thrown on this mysterious discovery.

"It would seem probable that the cist was used as an ossuary or place for the deposition of collected bones. So many individuals and animals could never have been buried intact in so small a grave." The question of previous disturbance, already suspected, was proved by the discovery of a coin of Crispus (A.D. 317-326) about a foot and a half below the present surface near the cross on the plan. Mr. Vulliamy concludes that the barrow belongs to a transitional type, an opinion with which I am in full agreement.

The following account of the beads is given in *Arch. Camb.* p. 299 :—They were "submitted to Mr. Horace C. Beck, who in conjunction with Mr. Reginald Smith, of the British Museum, were (*sic*) of the opinion that they might be attributed to an Anglo-Saxon burial of the sixth century A.D., and anyway not earlier than the second century, A.D."

*Western Mail*, Sept. 5th, 1921. (C. E. Vulliamy).

*Man*, Jan., 1922. Article No. 6. (C. E. Vulliamy) Plan.

*Arch. Camb.* LXXVI. (7 S. 1.), 1921, 296-7. (The Rev. W. E. T. Morgan and George Marshall).

## PIPTON LONG BARROW

Brecknockshire, 23 N.W.

Parish of Pipton.

7a\*.

Latitude 52° 01' 38".

Longitude 3° 13' 26".

Height above O.D., about 500 feet.

"About half-a-mile S.W. of Pipton Farm, on the hill which stands between the valleys of the Llynfi and the Wye. On the 6 inch map

## BRECKNOCKSHIRE

its outline is roughly indicated, but it is not described. A clump of trees conceals it; the trees are growing out of the mound, which is of the usual type found in this district—oval, about 100 feet long, orientated N.N.E.—S.S.W., with two upright slabs at the east end, placed across the axis, much weathered. The greater portion of the barrow is completely ruined. With the exception of the slabs mentioned (one of which is presumably the eastern terminal) there are no traces of the chamber." Extract from a letter from Mr. C. E. Vulliamy (the discoverer of this barrow) dated Glasbury House, July 7, 1922.

### MYNYDD TROED BARROW

Brecknockshire, 29 S.W. Parish of Talgarth. 8\*.

Latitude  $51^{\circ} 56' 51''$ . Longitude  $3^{\circ} 13' 13''$ . Height above O.D., about 1250 feet.

This Long Barrow is not marked on the map and has not been noticed before. It was found quite accidentally during a walk. It is only 60 feet long, and is about 30 feet wide at the north-east end (highest and broadest). Here are the remains of two uprights visible; the chamber has apparently been dug into a long time ago. Other large stones are visible above the surface of the mound further to the south-west. The two uprights are set at right angles to each other, the easternmost being at right angles to the long axis of the mound. The other upright is to the north-west of it. Close by on the north-west is a very small mound which has been dug into. The mounds lie on a spur above the pass leading from Cwm Sorgwm to Llangorse and the north-west, where is a col between Mynydd Troed on the N.E. and Mynydd Llangorse on the S.W.

Visited August 7th, 1921.

### TY ILLTYD

Brecknockshire, 34 N.E. Parish of Llanhamlach. 9\*.

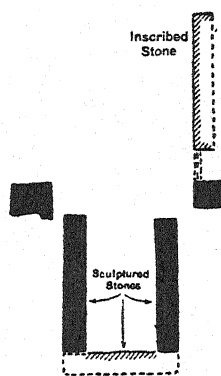
Latitude  $51^{\circ} 55' 51''$ . Longitude  $3^{\circ} 18' 41''$ . Height above O.D., a little more than 700 feet.

This is a most interesting Long Barrow, and in compiling the following account I have availed myself of notes made on the spot by



## LONG BARROWS

Mr. Evan Morgan of Brecon, in addition to my own made on August 6th, 1921. Mr. Morgan also drew the plan reproduced here. One chamber of the barrow is intact and covered by a capstone. It has been rifled at some very distant date, and on three of the uprights are carved a number of symbols. They appear, however, to be of much later date than the chamber itself, and the inscription on the stone north of and outside the chamber is in lettering of apparently mediæval character. Mr. Morgan says, "Incidentally they suggest that they were made *after* the chamber was constructed, as they are more numerous on the western stone than on the eastern, and in my opinion better cut. I take this to mean that they were made by a person lying on his left side and using his *right* hand to cut. . . . There is on the south end-stone a crude design of what I think is a harp." (About  $1\frac{1}{2}$  inches by 2 inches). The chamber, as will be seen from the plan, is 5 feet 9 inches long by 3 feet 4 inches wide, measured inside. The capstone is 7 feet long by 6 feet wide. It more than covers the chamber.



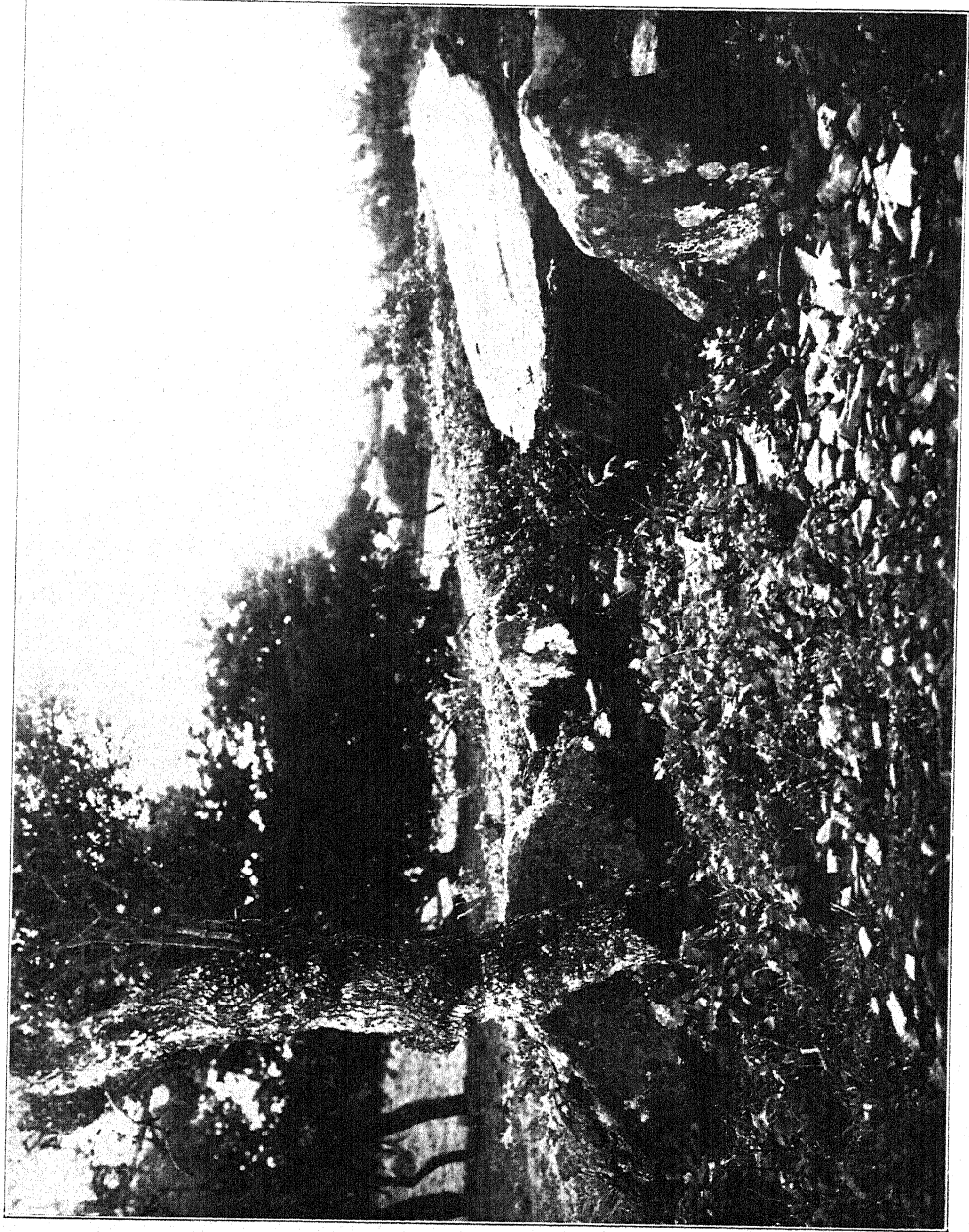
TY ILLTYD.

Burial Chamber, after  
Mr. Evan Morgan. 1:100

The designs on the inner side of the uprights are about four in all, and are constantly repeated. The commonest is a plain cross with small hollows or cups delicately chiselled at the end of each of the four arms. The diameter of the whole design is not more than an inch or two at the most. There are no incisions on the capstone. These designs were noticed and reported on the occasion of the Brecon meeting of the Cambrian Archæological Association in 1853, when the probably correct opinion was expressed that they were of the Christian era. The name of the monument—which means "Illtyd's House"—indicates Christian associations.

The five uprights in front and to the north of the chamber probably formed part either of an entrance passage or of another and now disrupted chamber. The original length of the mound was probably about 100 feet. It may have extended as much as 25 feet north of the chamber. At present it can only be seen clearly to the south of the chamber where it is between 4 feet and 5 feet. The width at the south end of the chamber is 56 feet. The height decreases southwards, and the highest part was





TY ILLTYD, looking east





TY ILLTYD (interior of chamber)





## BRECKNOCKSHIRE

originally no doubt that which covered the chamber. A large yew tree grows on the western edge of the mound, and an elder opposite the entrance and close to the inscribed stone. Both mound and chamber are open and unprotected, the latter being used as a shelter by sheep, who have not improved the incised designs by rubbing against them. Protective measures seem very desirable.

In Gough's *Camden* is an engraving of nine of the incised markings, but the reproduction is not an accurate one. Gough states that the monument is mentioned by Lhuyd, but gives no reference.

Gough's *Camden*, Vol. III, 103. (Plate IV, fig. 8, opp. p. 100).

## TY-ISAF

Brecknockshire, 29 S.W.      Parish of Talgarth.      10\*.

Latitude 51° 57' 13".      Longitude 3° 11' 26".      Height above O.D., 874 feet.

This Long Barrow is not marked on any map and was discovered by me quite accidentally on August 7th, 1921. It is about 95 feet long and lies in a small grass field immediately above and about 100 yards N.W. of Ty-isaf Farm. Two chambers are visible and there are indications of more.

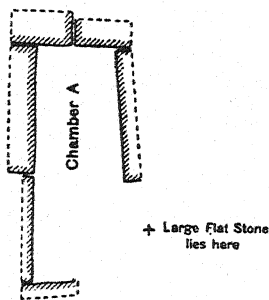
Mr. Evan Morgan, of Brecon, contributes the following account :—  
“ The width of the barrow at chamber A is 48 feet and its height about 3 or 4 feet at the place of measured width. North of A the barrow appears to be in its original state, but south of it considerable disturbance has taken place.

“ Chamber A has been uncovered and its capstone is missing. Its length is about 10 feet and its width 4 feet. It is thus considerably larger than Ty Iltyd which is about 6 feet long by 3 feet 4 inches wide. [It is perhaps possible that Ty Iltyd had a double length, as is suggested by a slab-stone on the N.E. boundary of the existing chamber there.] The side stones or uprights at the S.W. corner are missing, but probably one of them is that now lying on the ground close to the chamber (See plan). The heights of the E. and W. end-stones above the present surface are about 3 feet and 1 foot 6 inches respectively. The floor of the chamber consists of a number of small stones.



## LONG BARROWS

"Chamber B has its capstone in position. It rests at the east end on an upright block about 18 inches above the present surface, and is embedded in the mound at its W. end. Its greatest exposed length is about 6 feet and its greatest width 5 feet 6 inches. The chamber is exposed to view from its east end, but it is not possible to take any measurements on the inside. The side-stones appear to have been removed; at any rate they are not now visible.



TY-ISAF.

Plan of side-chamber, after  
Mr. Evan Morgan. 1:100

"The supposed Chamber is suggested by an upright stone in the barrow, the top of which just rises above the surface. The mound here does not appear to have been disturbed, and the chamber, if such it is, is intact.

"The upright stone at D may be a relic of a chamber which once existed at the southern end of the barrow. It is about 1 foot 6 inches long, 1 foot high, and between 3 and 4 inches thick. It lies in a rough undergrowth of thorns about 6 to 8 feet from the south end of the mound."

## GLOUCESTERSHIRE

### AVENING

See NORN'S TUMP, p. 115.

### ABLINGTON

See LAMBOROUGH BANKS, p. 108.

### BELAS KNAP

Gloucestershire 20 S.W.      Parish of Charlton Abbots.      12\*.

Latitude  $51^{\circ} 53' 13''$ .      Longitude  $1^{\circ} 34' 04''$ .      Height above O.D., about 980 feet.

Belas Knap is in many respects one of the most instructive (and perfect) chambered Long Barrows in Gloucestershire. In plan it resembles Windmill Tump, Rodmarton (No. 56), but it possesses two features peculiar to itself; it is oriented to a point 23 degrees *west* of true north, and the main portal, or horned end, is at the northern end of the barrow. It was excavated in 1863, 1864 and 1865. The following account is based upon the published accounts of these excavations, supplemented by a careful examination made by the writer and Mr. D. W. Herdman of the Cheltenham Municipal Museum, on October 14th, 1922.

The barrow consists of the following parts:—

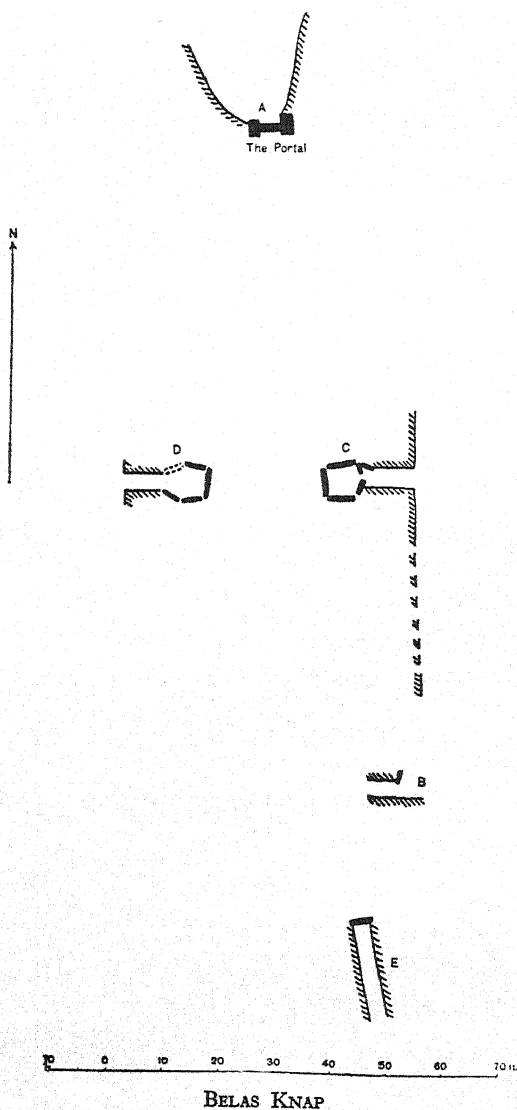
- (1) A portal (A) at the north end, where the surrounding wall curves gracefully inwards.
- (2) A chamber (D) on the west side, approached from outside.
- (3) A similar chamber (C) on the east side.
- (4) Remains of a passage (B) with corbelled roofing, on the east side.
- (5) A passage (E) running N. and S. at the south end of the barrow.
- (6) A circle of stones (F) with remains of burning.

(1) THE PORTAL. This consists at present of two uprights between which is set a vertical slab. The lintel which the uprights originally supported has fallen and lies on the ground nearly touching the western upright. The eastern upright is 5 ft. 5 ins. high, and its top (which seems to have been artificially levelled) is 2 ft. above the top of the central slab. The western upright is 5 ft. 10 ins. high; at a point

## LONG BARROWS

4 ft. 6 ins. above the ground (1 ft. 4 ins. below the top of the upright) a sill or small shelf has been cut on the inner (eastern) side of the stone ; this appears to have been done to make a resting place for the lintel ; the

distance from the artificially levelled top of the eastern upright to the inner corner of the shelf—which is 4 ft. 7 ins.—is exactly the same as the length of the fallen lintel. It should, however, be noted that the height of the shelf above the ground (4 ft. 6 ins.) is nearly a foot less than the height of the top of the eastern upright. When originally discovered the lintel “rested on two massive pillars or supports”; but it is not clear from this account whether it rested on the shelf or on the top of the eastern upright. The accompanying woodcut does not show the shelf. A comparison with the photograph (opp. p. 70) taken at the time of the excavations shows that it is not very accurate.



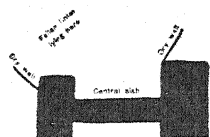
The distance between the inner faces of the two uprights—which is also the width of the central slab—is 3 ft. 10 ins.; the central slab itself is 11 ins. thick and 3 ft. 7 ins. high. It is difficult to say now whether it has been artificially shaped, but that is by no means unlikely. It is set in the middle of the two uprights which project north and south beyond it. The

plan (without the lintel) is therefore of the shape of a capital H. This is also the plan of the “dolmen” called Kit’s Coty House in Kent, which

## GLOUCESTERSHIRE

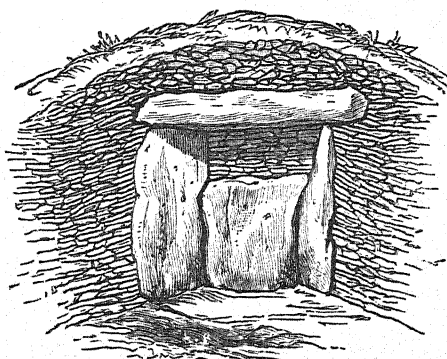
is nothing else than the portal of a Long Barrow, whose burial chambers (if such existed) have been destroyed.

The lintel is 4 ft. 7 ins. long and 2 ft. 9 ins. wide, and 9 ins. thick. It lies on the ground, but not, probably, on the original surface which appears now to be covered with the débris of excavation to a depth of nearly 3 feet.



BELAS KNAP.  
The Portal. 1:100

The following is an account of the excavations made at this part of the barrow in the autumn of 1863 (Mr. L. Winterbotham in *Proc. Soc. Ant. 2 S. iii.* 1866, 277). "In clearing this portion a piece of pottery, bearing the marks of the lathe [sic], and certainly of Roman origin, was found. . . . On the stone [presumably the lintel] was a massive lower jaw ['evidently that of an ancient Briton of about 30 years of age, with every tooth complete' says Thurnam, *Mem. Anthr. Soc. i.*, 474] with no other bone of any kind about it. Immediately under the stone, about 8 feet above the level of the ground, were the remains of five children, from under one year to about seven years of age; all the bones requisite for building up the skeletons were present, more or less warped and flattened; and the position and preservation of such minute and delicate bones, under a stone of such magnitude, preclude the idea of this being anything but a primary interment, and seem to show that the combination of stones at the north end was not merely an entrance to a chamber. This view is further supported by the fact that, in the subsequent explorations, no sign of any chamber was found in connection with what appears to be an entrance." Thurnam's account (quoted above) differs slightly and runs as follows:—"On raising the [lintel] stone, there were found among the rubble the skeletons of a young man of less than twenty, and of five children from six months to eight years of age. The jaws of the adult were broken but the teeth were seen to be slightly eroded and the third molars to have not yet protruded.



BELAS KNAP  
Original appearance of Portal.

## LONG BARROWS

The femur measured seventeen inches. This skull closely approaches the brachycephalous type, with a relative breadth of .79; its measurements are given in the Table [II, at the end of the volume] under the letter D.\* There is some parieto-occipital flatness, and at the coronal end of the sagittal suture is a small Wormian bone. The children's skulls are too fragmentary to permit the type, whether long or short, to be determined. In that of about eight years of age, the frontal suture is persistent. With these skeletons were many bones, tusks and teeth of pig and horse, with several flakes of flint, one fine one with a delicately serrated edge, and two or three fragments of coarse British pottery.

"Were the human skeletons found in this part of the tumulus those of victims sacrificed in honour of the dead who were interred in the principal chambers; and if so, is it not probable that they were those of a different tribe, and perhaps entirely different race? The obvious difference of type is in favour of this view." It seems highly probable that the answer to Thurnam's questions is in the affirmative, and further, that the secondary interments were of people belonging to the beaker-folk, whose territory lay both to the south and east of the Cotswolds.

The subject of "dummy portals" has already been dealt with in the Introduction to Ordnance Survey Professional Paper No. 6, and we can safely agree with the first writer quoted above that no burial chamber existed at the north end. The burials suggest some kind of sacrifice.

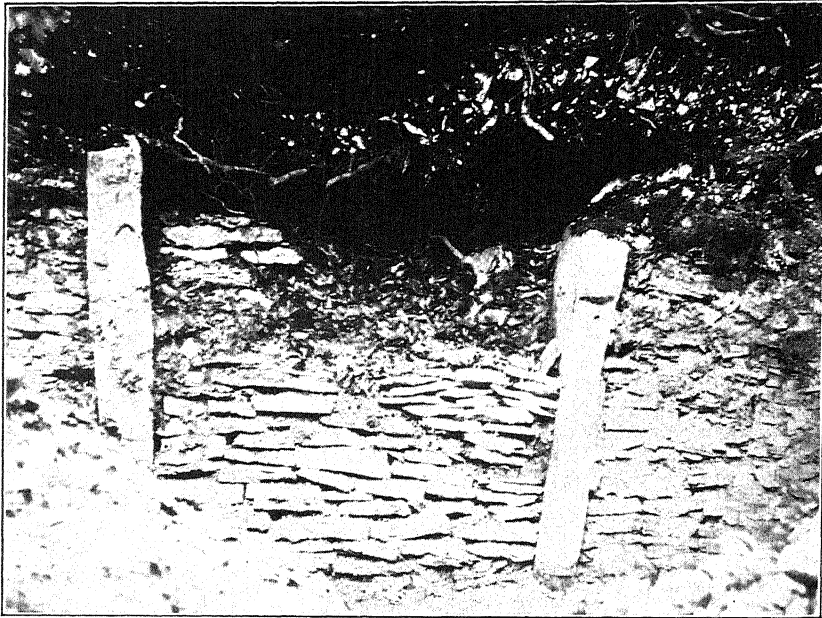
Similar "dummy portals" existed at Rodmarton (No. 56; width between the uprights "about five feet"); at West Tump (No. 52; width 3 ft. 8 ins. at bottom of uprights); at Gatcombe Lodge (No. 27; no measurements given); and probably at Lamborough Banks (No. 34) where the width of what appears to have been the central slab is given as 5 feet. The last mentioned barrow, however, seems to have had no uprights or lintel and presents other peculiarities.

(2) THE WESTERN CHAMBER (D). This chamber is formed of five upright slabs, two on each side and one at the (east) end; it is approached from outside the barrow by a passage, 2 ft. 10 ins. wide, whose

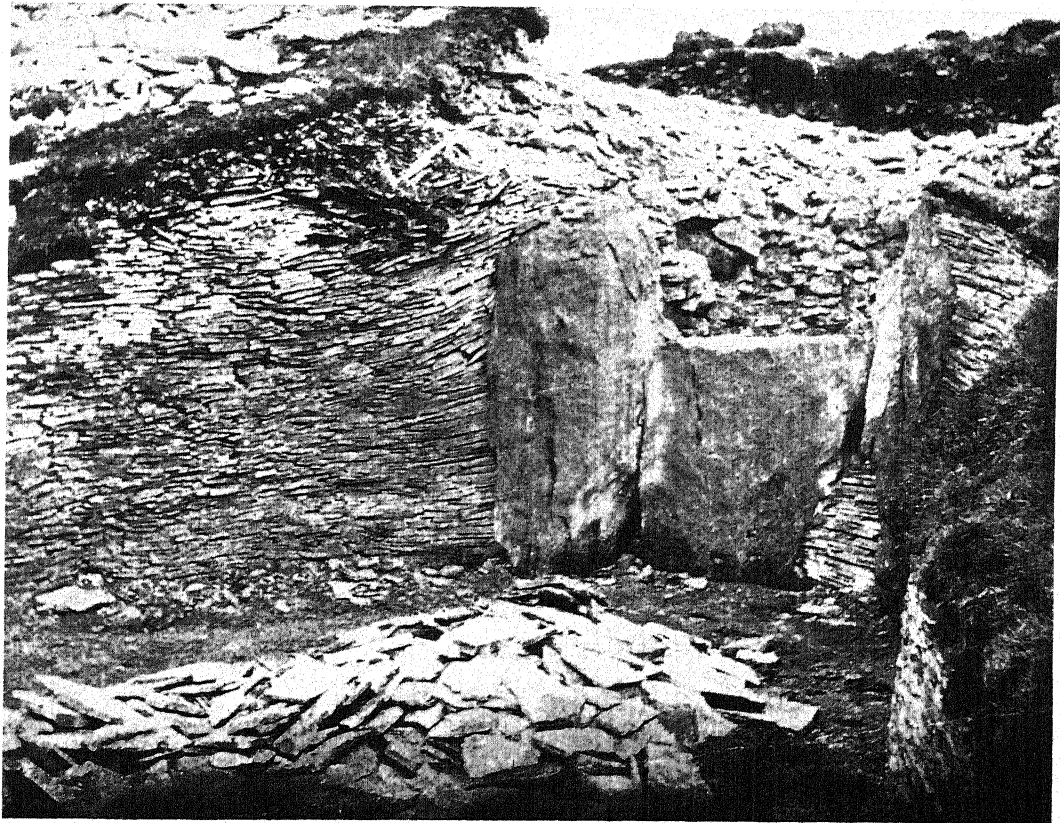
\* The following figures are given in Table II:—Age 18; cubic capacity 106; circumference, 20.6; length, 7.2; breadth 5.7 p; height, 5.5; breadth-length, .79; height-length, .76. This skull is now exhibited in the Cheltenham Municipal Museum, where it has been placed on loan by the Cheltenham College Museum authorities. A skull (broken and mended) marked Az, is in the Cheltenham College Museum.



"DUMMY" PORTALS AT THE TIME OF EXCAVATION



WEST TUMP (see p. 137)

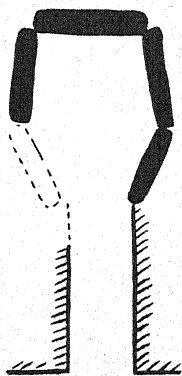


BELAS KNAP



## GLOUCESTERSHIRE

sides are formed of the usual dry walling of oolitic slate. The length of this passage, *i.e.*, the distance from stone 1 at the entrance of the chamber to the surrounding wall of the barrow is 7 feet, measured on the south side of the passage where the walling is still preserved. The walling on the north side has been damaged; and a fall of rubble has covered the western (5) of the two upright slabs on the N. side of the chamber. There does not appear ever to have been a capstone covering this chamber or C on the other side; the roofing of both seems to have consisted of overlapping slates. The chamber is about 5 ft. 4 ins. in diameter in the middle (N. and S.) by 7 ft. 0 ins. (E. and W.) Stone 1 is half covered under a heap of rubble, the pressure of which seems to have disintegrated it; it is 3 ft. 3 ins. long. Stone 2 is 4 ft. long; Stone 3 is 4 ft. 9 ins.; Stone 4 is 3 ft. 9 ins.; Stone 5 (dotted on plan) could not be measured or seen, but could be felt by prodding with a walking-stick.



BELAS KNAP,  
CHAMBER D,  
on west side of  
barrow. 1:100  
Plan by O.G.S.C.

The only information vouchsafed (Mr. L. Winterbotham, *Proc. Soc. Ant. 2 S. iii.* 1866, 278) about the results of its excavation is that it was nearly identical with the eastern chamber (C), and that "it contained fourteen bodies, differing from those found in the east chamber in this respect that those in D were of all ages, whereas those in the east chamber were all middle-aged."

Thurnam, writing in February, 1865, says that at that date the western chamber (D) had only been partially cleared (*M.A.S. i.* 476); and the remains of five skeletons only had been found then. "Four appeared to be those of young men of from twenty to thirty years, the fifth, that of a girl about seven. One humerus, out of about three or four from this chamber which have been preserved, presents the perforation of the olecranal fossa. . . . Of about nine femora, three from the eastern and six from the western chamber, one measures 15.7; two, 16—16.3; four 17.3 to 17.7; and two, 18 to 18.5 inches. Two lower cervical vertebræ were ankylosed, as before found in several of the Long Barrows. No implements or other objects, except six horses' teeth, seem to have been found in either chamber."



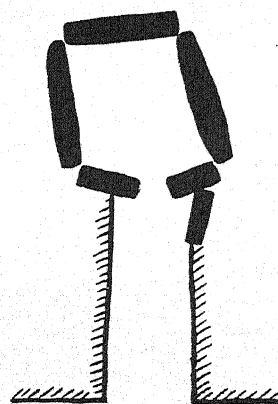
## LONG BARROWS

The following measurements are extracted from Table II. (all referring to skulls found in the western chamber D) :—

Ref. No. and sex.	Probable age	Cubic capacity	Length	Breadth	Height	Breadth-length index	Height-length index
D.1 ♂	20	—	7.4	5.4 ?	5.6	.72	.75
D.2 ♂	30	86	7.4	5.3 p	5.4	.71	.72
D.3 ♂	25	—	7.3	5. p	5.7	.68	.78
D.4 ♀	7	—	7.1	5.2 p	4.8	.73	.67

Of the above D.1, which consists of the left half of the skull only, is exhibited in the Cheltenham Municipal Museum, having been placed there on loan by the Cheltenham College Museum authorities. D.2 is in the Cheltenham College Museum. On the top in the left parietal bone is a hole,  $\frac{7}{8}$  in. by  $\frac{3}{8}$  in., produced during life by a blow which has depressed but not dislodged a portion of bone. In the College Museum are two skulls both marked D.4. One of these is very thin and presumably that of a young person. There are cracks in the left parietal and frontal bones caused by a blow administered during life, or at any rate while the bone was fresh and covered with flesh. The other is also perfect (without the mandible) and appears to be brachycephalic. The posterior part of the left parietal is cracked and warped by blows. There are also in the Cheltenham College Museum two skulls marked D.5 and D.6. D.5 consists of the right part only; in D.6 the sutures are almost obliterated.

(3) THE EASTERN CHAMBER (C). This chamber does not correspond exactly with D; and where it differs, it does so in a very interesting way. It is nearly the same size, and is terminated, like the other, by a single upright. But the sides are each formed by a single stone, and the entrance by two more. These two latter (Nos. 2 and 6 on the plan) have their inner sides hollowed out



BELAS KNAP, CHAMBER C,  
on east side of barrow.  
Plan by O.G.S.G. 1:100

## GLOUCESTERSHIRE

in a semi-circular fashion to form a kind of porthole 2 ft. 4 ins. in diameter. This important feature, which has hitherto escaped notice at Belas Knap, occurs also at Rodmarton, Avening, and probably Notgrove, and has been dealt with in the Professional Paper already referred to (p. 5).<sup>\*</sup> Here, however, the upper and lower parts of the stones do not appear to have been so close together as (to judge from the drawings given) was the case elsewhere. The chamber is approached by a passage flanked by walls of oolitic slates; at the entrance this passage is 3 ft. 8 ins. wide, but it narrows gradually to a width of 3 ft. 3 ins. On the south side the wall runs right up to Stone 6, but on the other side, dry walling is replaced by a single stone (No. 1), 2 ft. 5 ins. long, terminating against Stone 2. This combination of orthostatic and "dry" masonry is very suggestive, since we believe that the order of evolution was from the former to the latter. It points to a late date for the construction of the barrow, and is in keeping with the dummy portal, the external approach to the chambers and the corbelled roofing (instead of capstones) with which they were covered.

At the entrance to the passage the surrounding wall of the barrow is exposed and perfect for 10 ft. in each direction. An interesting feature is that at the top of this wall the usual flat slates are replaced by a row of much larger blocks. (See illustration opp. p. 89.)

The chamber was excavated in 1864; the following is the account given by Mr. L. Winterbotham, *Proc. Soc. Ant. 2 S. iii.*, 1866, 278:—"In this chamber, squatting on flat stones round the walls, must have originally been placed twelve corpses; the falling in of the roof had crushed them flat, and broken many of the bones and pressed them

<sup>\*</sup> Further information about holed stones will be found in an article by Professor Montelius, *Præhistorische Zeitschrift* (Berlin) Vol. II., Part 4, pp 258, 9, where is a map showing the distribution in Sweden of megalithic graves with artificially hollowed semi-circles. Similar stones (consisting sometimes of a single flat stone with a circular perforation) occur in Brittany and North France; Monsieur Léon Coutil has given an excellent account of these in *Mém. Soc. préh. française*, Vol. IV, (1915-19), 21, "Note sur les cloisons perforées," following an account of an *allée couverte* with a perforated stone at Vaudancourt, Oise. To his list of English examples may now be added the Devil's Ring and Finger near Market Drayton, Staffordshire; the perforated stone at Billingsley, Shropshire, if it is a genuine antiquity (see p. —); and the opposed semi-circles at Belas Knap. Monsieur Coutil says (p. 23):—"Les cloisons d'Avening et de Rodmarton formées de deux pierres échancrées et réunies, comme aux allées couvertes de Champigneulle (Oise), Aubergenville (Seine-et-Oise) et La Sauvagère (Orne). Il existe dans le Caucase, la Palestine et aux Indes des dolmens avec cloison portant une perforation circulaire (Figs. 10, 12 et 13)." These facts of distribution have, of course, been known for long.



## LONG BARROWS

partially into the surface of the ground, rendering their extrication no easy task. I was fortunate enough to be present just as the work was finishing [!], in time to dig out a perfect skull, and to determine the position in which the body was laid. On a flat stone, underneath the upright one forming the south wall of the chamber, were the pelvic bones of this skeleton; the two thigh and leg bones were sticking out straight across the chamber, imbedded in clay; the vertebræ and ribs were in a mass around the pelvic bones. A little to the left lay the head, fallen over on its face, which was two-thirds buried in clay; and across the condyles of the femora lay the arm bones. In each nostril were found two phalanges of a forefinger; the top phalanx of one having been driven through the orbit into the cavity of the cranium, as if the body had been placed in the sitting posture, and the head kept erect by thrusting the fingers into the nose. Immediately over these remains lay the thin flat slabs which originally formed the roof."

Thurnam's account (*Mem. Anthr. Soc. i.* 476) of the skulls from the eastern chamber (C) is as follows:—"With one exception (C.2) all are of the long or narrow-oval type, and with the exception of two others (C.4 and C.8) are extremely dolichocephalous. The two skulls, C.1 and C.2 are very perfect and well preserved; they present considerable difference in form. C.1 is massive and heavy, and is obviously that of a powerful man. It is of narrow and elongate form, having a relative breadth (.68) as low as that of any skull in this very dolichocephalous series. The sides are much flattened, so that it approaches the scaphoid form. The frontal is narrow and receding; the supraciliaries remarkably prominent and overhanging; the face short and narrow; the upper maxillæ deeply hollowed; the teeth much eroded and obliquely jagged. The squamous and sphenoid sutures are open; the sagittal extensively obliterated, the coronal less so, and the lambdoid less so still. The left parietal foramen is alone present; it is of large size with gaping rounded edges.

"The skull C.2 departs more than any other from the general type observed in these crania. It is sub-brachycephalous with a relative breadth of .77. The sex may be doubtful; but on the whole I believe it to be the skull of a woman. (The crowns of the upper incisors are worn down to the very fangs). Whether this implies a variation in the type of the dolichocephalous race to whom I refer this class of barrows, or whether, in this instance, and in that of the skull from near the trilith

## GLOUCESTERSHIRE

A [the portal], we have a case of admixture of the other race with prevailing brachycephalous type of the skull, can only be conjectured. The general rule is, at least, not invalidated by two apparent exceptions. . . . It is unnecessary to describe the rest of the skulls separately. On the whole, those of the men correspond with C.1; and those of the women have likewise an aspect in common, which in several instances approaches to a family character. This is likewise the case with the skulls of the young men from Chamber D; in which the parietal tubers are more prominent than in those from the opposite chamber. In the majority of all the crania, the sagittal and coronal sutures, especially the former, are considerably effaced and ossified; and in a very considerable proportion the ossified sagittal present a rugose and thickened appearance in the posterior third of its extent, around the seat of the parietal foramina. In scarcely any instance is there more than one of these foramina, which are remarkable for their large size, and patulous and rounded edges. The single foramen is sometimes in the edge of the right, sometimes in that of the left parietal bone." Dr. Thurnam adds that the skulls "are in the possession of L. Winterbotham, Esq., of Amberley House, Cheltenham." They are now fortunately in the safe keeping of the Museums of Cheltenham Municipality and College.

The measurements, given in table on next page, all referring to skulls found in the eastern chamber (C), are extracted from Table II.

Of these skulls C.2 and C.4 are both exhibited in the Cheltenham Municipal Museum, having been placed there on loan by the Cheltenham College Museum authorities. C.1, C.3, C.5, C.6, and C.7 are in the Cheltenham College Museum. The present abode of C.8—C.11, is not known. C.3 seems to have been broken during life by (two?) heavy blows delivered from behind upon the back and side of the head. C.5 has a curious hole exactly at the junction of the parietal and lambdoid sutures. It is  $1\frac{5}{8}$  ins. by  $1\frac{1}{8}$  ins., and seems to have been made either during life or soon after death while the bone was fresh. Its symmetrical position is remarkable. There are also cracks on the vault which appear to have been made during life. C.6 is perfect and unbroken but lacks the mandible. C.7 is unbroken.

(4) REMAINS OF A PASSAGE (B) ON E. SIDE, with corbelled roofing. The exact nature of this passage is obscure. At present there are visible two dry walls only. The roofing (corbelled) is still partly preserved at

## LONG BARROWS

the E. end of the passage but seems to have collapsed recently. The only upright stone is one in the north wall ; it is set at right angles to the direction of the passage.

The following is the rather confused account of its excavation (written by Mr. L. Winterbotham, in a report presented to Mr. W. L. Lawrence, F.S.A. and published in *Proc. Soc. Ant.* 2 S. iii. 1866, 276-7):—  
 “ In the spring of 1863 a large flat stone, lying exposed on the surface of the barrow, at its south end, was removed, and proved to be the cover of a cell 6 ft. long by about 2½ ft. broad, and 3 or 4 feet from the surface of the mound. Its sides and one end were composed of large, rough flat stones, the other end being formed by a semi-circle of rough dry walling. This cell (B in ground plan) bore no relation to the general position of the tumulus, being placed S.S.E. and N.N.W. It was filled with rubble, amongst which were found the remains of four human bodies, two male and two female. The bones were much broken and decayed. There were also discovered the bones and tusks of boars, a bone scoop, four pieces of rough, sun-baked pottery, and a few flints.”

Ref. No. and sex	Probable age	Cubic capacity	Length	Breadth	Height	Breadth- Length Index	Height- Length Index
C.1 ♂	55	96	7.7	5.3 P	5.7	.68	.74
C.2 ♀	60	105	7.2	5.6 P	5.6	.77	.77
C.3 ♂	60	114	7.8	5.6 P	5.6	.71	.71
C.4 ♂	60	100	7.4	5.6 P	5.5	.75	.74
C.5 ♂	65	—	8	5.8 t	5.7	.72	.71
C.6 ♀	30	86	7.2	5.1 P	5.2	.70	.72
C.7 ♀	40	87	7.1	5.1 P	5.4	.71	.76
C.8 ♀	60	—	7.2	5.4 P	5.6	.75	.77
C.9 ♀	20	—	7.5	5.3 P	—	.70	—
C.10 ♀	60	—	7.5	5.1 P	—	.68	—
C.11 ♂	60	—	7.6	5.5 P	—	.72	—

## GLOUCESTERSHIRE

It is evident that the writer of the above description was not speaking from first-hand knowledge. His description does not agree with the published plan; and both are very incorrect. No "large, rough, flat stones" are visible, with the exception of the one mentioned above; and the present orientation of the passage is approximately east and west. No remains of any semi-circular dry walling are now visible. The present whereabouts of the bone scoop, flints, pottery and other remains found here is unknown; but Dr. Bird (p. LXX) says that some boars' tusks and human bones were preserved at Sudeley Castle.

Thurnam's account (*Mem. Anthr. Soc. i.* 475) supplements the above in one or two particulars: "At the narrow or south end of the mound, a small cist or grave, built up of flat stones (B), was uncovered. It contained four or five skeletons. The dimensions of one male and one female calvarium, obtained in a tolerably perfect condition, are given in the Table under the letter B. They are both quite dolichocephalous, that of the woman extremely so. In both the sagittal suture is extensively obliterated; and there is only one parietal foramen, which is of large size, patulous, and with rounded edges. One femur measures 18.5 inches, two tibiae, 14.5 inches. There were a few flint flakes, bits of pottery, boars' tusks, two tibiae of a roe buck, and a rudely finished implement of bone, with three perforations at one end. Thus far the tumulus was explored in 1863."

The following measurements referring to the skulls from chamber B, are extracted from Table II. :—

Ref. No. and sex	Probable age	Cubic capacity	Length	Breadth	Height	Breadth- Length Index	Height- Length Index
B.1. ..	55	108	7.8	5.5	5.5	.70	.70
B.2 ..	50	86	7.4	5.1	5.5	.68	.74

The mandible only of B.2 is exhibited in the Cheltenham Municipal Museum, where it has been placed on loan by the Cheltenham College Museum authorities. The remains of B.1 (broken and mended) are preserved in the Cheltenham College Museum; but the mandible is not with it. There are, however, in the same Museum twelve loose mandibles, which is also the number of the skulls preserved there. But

## LONG BARROWS

of these mandibles, five appear to have belonged to young persons ; if so, they cannot all have belonged to the skulls exhibited.

(5) A PASSAGE (E), running N. and S. at the south end of the Barrow.

The sides of this passage are formed of dry walling without any large upright stones. The width is 3 ft. 3 ins. throughout, and the length 17 ft. The north end is closed by a vertical upright slab. The published account is again very inadequate ; and the published plan does not agree with the visible remains. There are no signs of any " cist " ; the square chamber, whose sides according to the plan are about 8 feet in length, cannot be seen ; and the perfect condition of the passage and the blocking end-stone make it unlikely that any such ever existed. Moreover the total length from the north end of the chamber to the surrounding wall of the barrow on the south is only (according to the plan) about 12 feet at the most, which is 5 feet less than the *present* length of the passage.

The account (*Proc. Soc. Ant. 2 S. iii.* 1866, 279, describing Mr. J. C. Chamberlayne's excavations in June, 1865) is as follows :—" Other and considerable openings were subsequently made to the south and west of this [the circle of stones, F], but without any result except at the centre of the exterior southern wall. In following the course of this, an opening was found, leading to a small cist (E). It was apparently perfect and untouched. Portions of a human skull, and some teeth, and a deposit of animal bones, probably a wild boar, were met with in working down to it. It was walled all round, covered with three large horizontal stones, each about three feet square, but only contained pieces of broken stones. Mr. Winterbotham adds :—" The very fragmentary skull and the boar's bones found at the south end are said to present marks of cremation. If this is the case they show the only signs of fire anywhere about the tumulus, except in the neighbourhood of the stone circle between the two cells.' " [These are the chambers C and D.] Excavation immediately to the north of the closing end-stone might help to elucidate this part of the mound ; and if undertaken should be carried on to a point west of B, where the remains of another chamber may still survive under the rubble which now lies there.

That the square expansion of the passage E, shown on the plan, had no basis in fact is made still more probable by measurements on the plan. These show that the northern wall of this imaginary square chamber E, was



## GLOUCESTERSHIRE

the same distance from chamber D, and the Portal (A) as is the existing flat upright stone which closes the end of the passage (E on my plan).

### (6) A CIRCLE OF STONES (F) with remains of burning.

The space between the chambers C and D is now occupied by a passage between two built-up dry walls, which appear to have been made at the time of the excavation. They are in any case quite evidently modern, and consist of much larger and rougher stones than the neolithic walls. The stones are not so carefully selected, and the wall is not, in fact, nearly so well made. Here, according to the account (*Proc. Soc. Ant. 2 S. iii.* 1866, 279) was a circle of stones. From a drawing made of them (now exhibited in the Cheltenham Municipal Museum) they appear to have lain flat. "Nearly in the centre, and at the back (*i.e.* west) of cell C, a broken circle of stones (F in plan) was discovered. The soil all round them was deeply impregnated with wood ashes. The diameter of this circle of stones is about 7 feet. No remains of any sort were found near it." In the absence of further evidence (including now the circle itself) it is impossible to comment upon this discovery.

The whole barrow is surrounded by a dry wall of oolitic slates, which was constructed with great care and precision. This wall is still preserved intact where it curves inwards at the north end towards the portal; and in the vicinity of the chambers C and D. It is made in the same way as the modern field walls, but with smaller and more carefully selected stones. (In passing we may note the great antiquity of the craft of the dry-waller, one of our oldest industries). Unfortunately, the wall on the east side of the portal is rapidly disintegrating. When I first visited it in 1920 a large bulge was visible; this was clearly doomed to break very soon; and when I returned in 1922 it had actually broken. The corners of this wall are most excellently fashioned where the wall is discontinued at the entrance to the chambers (see view opposite p. 89). A peculiar and very suggestive feature is the presence of much larger blocks at the top of the wall by the entrance to chamber C. Elsewhere the wall is covered by débris.

### W. 3.

*Annals of Winchcombe and Sudeley*, by Emma Dent, London, 1877, pp. 4-9 (plan very inaccurate, p. 6).

*Proc. Soc. Ant. 2 S.*, III., 1866, 275-282 (plan, inaccurate, "adapted" from Thurnam's). This is the best account of the barrow and its excavation, and is the one most quoted above.

## LONG BARROWS

Thurnam; *Mem. Anthr. Soc.*, I, 1863, 474-7 (plan, inaccurate, p. 474).

*Proc. C.N.F.C.*, VI., 1876, 337 (summary only).

*Trans. B. and G.A.S.*, v. (1880-81), 100-103 (summary and in part verbatim quotation of *Proc. Soc. Ant.* account).

*Journal of the Anthropological Society of London*, Vol. III., 1865, pp. LXX to LXXIV.  
(A detailed account of the bones, with measurements, by Dr. Bird).

*Arch.* XLII.

## BISLEY BARROW

(See also 105 "Twizzle Stone")

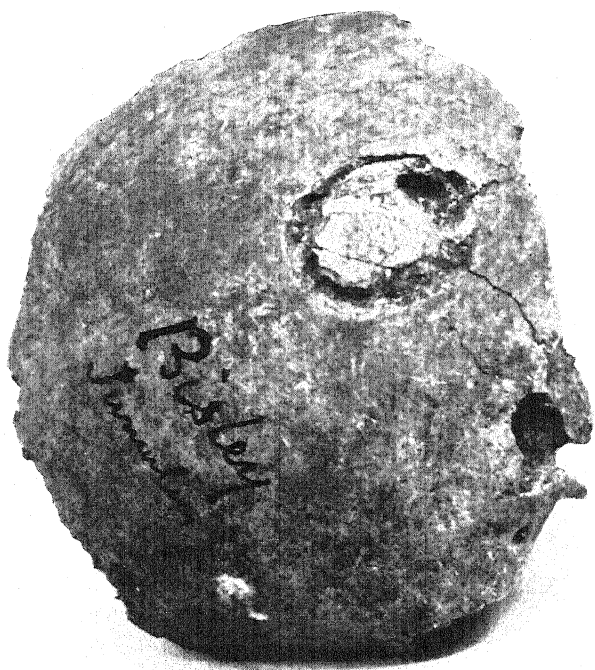
Gloucestershire, 50 N.W. Parish of Bisley-with-Lypiatt. 13\*.

Latitude 51° 44' 37" Longitude 2° 7' 28" Height above O.D. about 740 feet.

Witts says:—"A Long Barrow was opened in 1863 a little to the south of Bisley. A short account of it appeared in the local papers at the time, but I have been unable to find it. The barrow has since been entirely destroyed." Mr. A. E. W. Paine has a trephined skull (*see* plate opposite) from this Long Barrow, an account of which was published in the *Proc. of the R. Soc. of Medicine*. Mr. Paine and the Rev. R. Jowett Burton have succeeded in locating the site of a Long Barrow, which seems to be the one here described. It lies in a small spinney on the N.E. side of Limekiln Lane, immediately N.E. of the "n" in Limekiln on Glouc. 50 N.W. (ed. of 1903). The fields due west of this point are called Twizzle Stone on the Tithe Map of 1873. A summary of all that is known of this barrow appears in Mr. Paine's note in *Proc. C.N.F.C.* XVII. Lysons tells us that it was called "Solomon's Court."

A possible reference to this barrow was made by Mr. Lowder:—"There is a Long Barrow, almost intact, in Thorougham field, *another very large one at Avenis*, sometimes written Avonedge, a property belonging to Dr. Paine, opened some years ago, and found to contain very interesting remains; and what are believed to be the relics of a third, a little to the north-east, on the property of C. H. Stanton, Esq."

In addition to the trephined skull, Mr. Paine has in his collection



Trephined Skull from the Bisley Barrow.



## GLOUCESTERSHIRE

from this barrow part of a child's mandible, part of the mandible of an old man, and many cranial and other fragments of human bones.

W. 4.

*Arch.* XLII., 201.

*Proc. C.N.F.C.*, xvii. (1912), 341-3. Plate 41.

*Proc. R. Soc. Med.*, Vol. xiv. (No. 10), August, 1921 (86 pp.) "The Prehistoric trephined skulls of Great Britain," by T. Wilson Parry, M.A., M.D., etc.

*Trans. B. and G.A.S.*, Vol. v. 38. Mr. Lowder.

Lysons, "*Our British Ancestors*," p. 116.

## BLACKQUARRIES HILL BARROW

Gloucestershire 56 S.E. Parish of Wotton-under-Edge. 14\*.

Latitude  $51^{\circ} 38' 14''$ . Longitude  $2^{\circ} 19' 29''$ . Height above O.D. about 750 feet.

This barrow is mentioned only by Wits and is included by him in his list of Round Barrows [W. 94 Round]. There can however, be no doubt that it is a Long Barrow. It is surrounded by a wall and is planted thinly with firs, the whole being called "The Clump." A young farmer who accosted me knew little about it except that there was a tradition of "soldiers" being buried here. That alone is, I think, sufficient to put out of court the suggestion of an old quarry dump which occurred to me when I first looked at it. It is 114 feet long. It is oriented N.E.—S.W. and has been very roughly dug over. There are no loose stones lying about. The plantation on the S.E. covers a maze of old quarries and is known as Tile Plantation, from the fact that roof-tiles were quarried here. W. 95 (Round) lies 1000 feet due south, in a field where I found several flints, all worked.

Visited, December 8, 1920.

W. 94. (Round).

## BOWN HILL BARROW

Gloucestershire, 49 S.W. Parish of Woodchester. 15\*.

Latitude  $51^{\circ} 42' 51''$ . Longitude  $2^{\circ} 15' 23''$ . Height above O.D. about 750 feet.

The following account is quoted in full from the *Proceedings of the Cotteswold Field Club*, because, with the exception of a summary of 16 lines by Wits (p. 75), it is the only record of the "excavation" and is very inaccessible :—



## LONG BARROWS

"Wednesday, May 20th, 1863. The Club met at Stroud. The principal work of the day was the opening of a 'barrow' on Bown Hill, near Woodchester, which had formed a subject of discussion towards the end of the previous season, when, the period of the year being too far advanced, the work of exploration was deferred. Workmen had been employed under Dr. Paine and Mr. Witchell on the two previous days; but beyond the discovery of the entrance to the sepulchral chambers no great progress had been made in the excavation of the mound, which, from its size and solidity, proved to be a very laborious operation. In order, therefore, to expedite matters, a strong force of labourers, 22 in number, had been employed from an early hour on the day of the meeting. The mound, which measured about 60 yards in length by 17 in extreme width, was seen to be constructed of angular masses of stone, heaped together without any order or regularity, amongst which were scattered blocks of considerable size and weight.

"The excavators had opened a trench about 100 feet in length, in a direction due east and west by compass. The western extremity was the broadest, the mound gradually diminishing in width to the opposite end. The workmen had struck upon the entrance, which, when exposed, showed a chamber formed of five large, unhewn stones, two on each side, and one placed transversely, the dimensions of which were 4 feet in width by 8 feet 6 inches in length. There was no covering stone, but the entrance was flanked on either side by a wall of dry masonry, very neatly fitted, forming a segment of a circle, which, if completed, would have enclosed a well-like chamber in front of the entrance to the tumulus. This wall had been abruptly broken off; but there were amongst those present some who thought they detected signs of its having been at one time continuous. It was evident that the whole structure had been thoroughly ransacked and broken up by former explorers; and so completely had the work of devastation been accomplished that hardly one stone was left upon another. The chambers, with the one exception already noted, had been entirely demolished, and but a few bones scattered throughout the tumulus remained, all more or less in a fragmentary condition. These fragments comprised one fully developed frontal bone, male; portions of two male lower jaws, and portions of two female skulls; several thigh bones, and bones of the leg and foot, including the remains of children, but all much broken. There were found the remains of six individuals at the least, *viz.*, two

## GLOUCESTERSHIRE

men, two women and two children, the latter between six and eight years of age. There were several bones of cattle and calves ; teeth of horse and ox ; a portion of the bones of the foreleg of a dog ; several boars' teeth, tusks and grinders, and parts of jaw bones ; a bone 'scoop,' formed of a shank bone of a horse ; and a large quantity of a black, unctuous substance, having the appearance of wood or animal charcoal ; but no burnt bones. A small portion of a flint flake was detected in the black paste. Besides the organic remains above enumerated, some pieces of rude pottery were found, which, with a Roman brass coin of the Emperor Germanicus, complete the list of objects yielded by the exploration of this large sepulchral mound, which, in consequence of the violence it had undergone at the hands of former explorers, afforded but little to compensate the Club for the trouble and expense of opening it."

Visited December 1st, 1920.

The present height (greatest as usual at the east end) is about 10 feet. The extreme eastern end has been destroyed by quarrying, now discontinued. Signs of excavations are visible at the east end (where presumably the entrance referred to above was found) and a trench has been dug across the barrow from north to south at a point a little east of its middle. A shallow depression is visible on the north side near the west end, but otherwise the whole of the barrow to the west of the cross trench appears to be undisturbed. The general state of preservation would be regarded as good, if we did not know that it had been excavated in the middle of the 19th century. There are no signs of ditches or of any surrounding wall. The barrow lies in a patch of rough pasture and is in no apparent danger of destruction. It stands near the highest point (763 feet) of the hill, and commands a magnificent view. South eastwards can be seen the Berkshire Downs (probably the White Horse Hill and Wayland's Smithy) ; northwards May Hill and the Malvern Hills are visible ; in the western distance are the Brecknock Beacons and the Black Mountains, and in the foreground the Severn Estuary and the Forest of Dean.

A Round Barrow lies about 70 yards away in a ploughed field to the north-west.

In the Cheltenham College Museum are four certainly Romano-British potsherds from this barrow, and some bones and fragments. Mr. A. E. W. Paine, of Cheltenham, has in his collection from this barrow the following objects :—Parts of two human mandibles and

## LONG BARROWS

of two or three skulls ; some detached human teeth ; two boars' tusks ; eight fragments of pottery and two rim-pieces ; one of the body fragments is neolithic and finger-marked, and one is certainly Romano-British ; a Roman coin (presumably that of Germanicus referred to above) ; a bone scoop made from the leg bone of a horse (figured on the next page) ; a sandstone hammer or pounder ; and two teeth of *Bos primigenius* (identified by Dr. C. W. Andrews, of the British Museum).

NOTE.—Since the above account was written Mr. Paine has sent me the following account condensed from notes written by his father who took part in the original excavation in 1863. As it contains the record of facts not elsewhere published I quote it here in full :—

“Bown Hill Long Barrow is situated on the summit of the ridge on the northern side of Woodchester Park, at an elevation of 760 feet, some three miles from Stroud, and is about 600 yards to the S. of the road leading from Stroud to Dursley.

“It was examined by ‘the Cotteswold Naturalists’ Field Club’ on May 20th, 1863, workmen having been employed in opening it on their behalf on the two preceding days, under the direction of Dr. W. H. Paine and Mr. Edwin Witchell of Stroud.

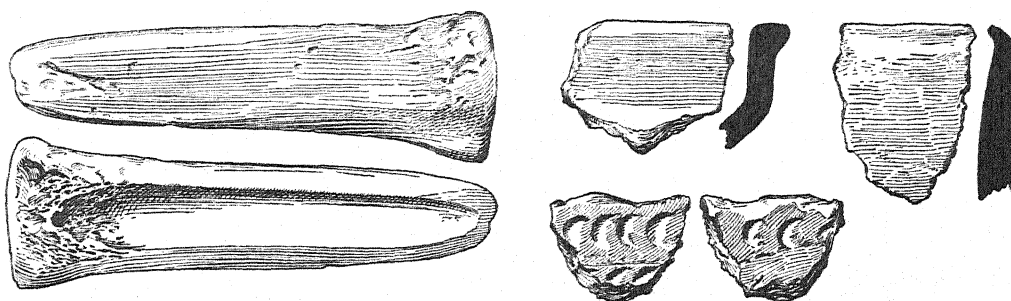
“The Barrow, which was constructed of angular masses of stone, heaped together without any order, was 180 feet in length, 60 feet in width at its eastern end, gradually decreasing to less than 40 feet at its western extremity, and 14 feet in height at the highest part. Its direction was East-North-East and West-South-West, the eastern end being the higher. The entrance was found at the eastern end and was formed of beautifully constructed semi-circular dry walling well supported and strengthened by stone backing of considerable depth. The single chamber which existed within this entrance was 8 feet 6 ins. in length, by 4 feet in width, and was formed of five large stones set on edge, two on each side and one placed transversely. The covering stones had been removed, and the chamber had evidently been examined and its contents greatly disturbed at some previous time.

“In the chamber were fragments of the skulls of three or four adults, many vertebræ and limb bones, the clavicle of an infant and the rib of a young child. Of these fragments it was found possible to construct nearly an entire skull, which proved to be that of a man of a long headed race. Many human teeth were scattered about and these as well as those fixed in the jaws were all much worn.

## GLOUCESTERSHIRE

"Besides the human remains were bones and teeth of horse, ox, wild boar and dog, a bone implement described by Dr. Thurnam as 'a scoop or gouge-shaped chisel made out of the shank bone of a horse,' a broken whetstone, and a portion of a rubbing stone, both of quartzite, several flint flakes, one or two of which have secondary working, a quartzite pebble, a fragment of ironstone and eight small pieces of pottery, one of which has a pattern made by the impression of a finger nail.

"High up near the surface of the Barrow, a Roman coin was turned up.



OBJECTS FOUND IN BOWN HILL LONG BARROW. 1:2

"There were no signs of cremation having been practised within the Barrow, the bones were untouched by fire, though the surface of the mound showed indications of its action and much burnt material had been washed by the rains among the loose stones of the upper part. This was believed to be due to beacon fires having at various times been kindled on the mound, as it is situated in a commanding position and the view from it is very extensive."

W. 5.

*Proc. C.N.F.C.*, III., 1865, 199, 200.

## CAMP BARROW (NORTH)

Gloucestershire, 42 N.W. Parish of Miserden. 16\*.

Latitude 51° 46' 48". Longitude 2° 07' 30". Height above O.D., 864 feet.

"There are two interesting Long Barrows (Camp Barrow [south] is the other) a little to the south of the village of Camp, two miles north of Bisley ; they have been previously described as Round Barrows,

## LONG BARROWS

but such is not the case. They are situated close together, the 'horned' ends being only 15 feet apart; they extend in contrary directions, one towards the north, the other [this one] towards the south. . . . The northern barrow measures 150 feet by 74 feet, the 'horned' ends being towards the south. There are four large stones visible in this barrow, forming a chamber. A great number of human skeletons have at various times been dug up near the village of Camp."

Visited December 12th, 1920.

This barrow, the northern one, stands in two fields; a wall crosses the barrow at right angles (from E. to W.). The four stones stand at the southern end of the barrow, in the same field as W. 7. Two of them have fallen; they evidently once formed part of a megalithic structure. The whole of the mound has been dug over, and there are two large heaps of spoil, E. and W. of the apparent site of the chamber, where also many loose stones lie about. A sycamore grows on the S.E. side and a single pine at the N.W. corner of the field, which is used for keeping pigs in.

In the Cheltenham College Museum are exhibited the following bones:—1. Part of a child's mandible, labelled "Camp's tumulus, under *æt.* 18; several small skeletons, knees up to chin, 1860." 2. Part of occipital and parietal bones (one unbroken fragment) labelled "Camp's tumulus, 1860, with bones of . . . ." [left blank].

W. 6. (Quoted above).

## CHARLTON ABBOTS

See BELAS KNAP, p. 67.

## COBERLEY BARROW

Gloucestershire, 34 N.E.      Parish of Coberley.      17\*.

Latitude  $51^{\circ} 50' 20''$ .      Longitude  $2^{\circ} 03' 53''$ .      Height above O.D. about 750 feet.

This barrow is undoubtedly a Long Barrow. It is almost certainly to be identified with Witts' No. 22 (Round). Witts copied his description from that of Dr. Bird in the *Proc. of the Cotteswold Field Club* for 1877, which was as follows in the original paper:—"A tumulus of this description (round) was discovered at Cubberley, to the north of the



## GLOUCESTERSHIRE

residence of the late Mr. Hutchinson ; the skull, and some of the bones with the balls of clay, and flints were taken to the house, and the skull was afterwards sent to the Ethnological Society. It was a small skull, long and narrow, and was slightly twisted from the pressure of the clay. The thigh and arm bones were short ; and the stature of the individual was not more than five feet. A flint flake from this tumulus is preserved in the Museum of Cheltenham College." [Dr. Bird, whose general ideas were hopelessly confused, divided tumuli into three classes, (1) Round Earth Tumuli ; (2) Round Stone Tumuli ; (3) Long Barrows ; he rather implies that that is also their chronological order ; but he does not explain the difference between (1) and (2), nor why he classes this barrow, most clearly a Long one, amongst the first].

Witts' account is merely a summary of the above except that he says that the barrow lay " in the parish of Cubberley, to the north of Cowley Manor." That describes the actual position of this Long Barrow ; on his map however, he places it nearly a mile further south, and in the parish of Cowley. It is, I think, practically certain that he did not visit the site himself, and entered the position on his map from Dr. Bird's account. Parish boundaries were not marked on the 1 in. Ordnance Maps of his day.

The barrow in question lies on the top of a narrow ridge separating the valley of the Churn (west of Coberley) and Coldwell Bottom, in a field of rough pasturage. The field, which has probably never been ploughed, is called " Quarry Ground," from an old quarry lying a little to the west of the barrow. An old track follows the ridge from Crickley Hill crossing the Churn at Coberley Mill, just above its confluence with the Coldwell stream. It passes close by the north side of the barrow. I visited it on December 20th, 1920. A man who was mending a gap in the wall immediately to the north of the barrow told me that " the squire " had excavated it a long time ago, certainly 40 years ago, but found nothing. His excavation took the form of a deep trench which divides the barrow into two parts a little to the east of the middle. (This is accurately shown by the hachures on the map.) The barrow is about 140 feet long, and about 8 feet high. It is now highest at the west end ; but it has been dug over in many other places and its original form thereby destroyed. There are no signs of walling or big stones visible or lying about ; nor are there any signs of side-ditches. As the Down has probably never been disturbed their absence is still another proof that the Gloucestershire

## LONG BARROWS

Long Barrows did not have side-ditches. No trees grow on or near it. There is not much left to preserve nor does it appear to be in any immediate danger of molestation.

*W.* 22. (Round).

*Proc. C.N.F.C.* vi, p. 332, (referred to above).

## COLD ASTON LONG BARROW

Gloucestershire, 28 S.E. Parish of Cold Aston (Aston Blank). 18\*.

Latitude  $51^{\circ} 53' 02''$ . Longitude  $1^{\circ} 47' 30''$ . Height above O.D. about 600 feet.

Length 120 feet, width 48 feet, height about 7 feet. Oriented S.S.E.—N.N.W. Witts says:—"A great number of flint arrow-heads have been found at various times in the immediate vicinity."

It stands on the edge of a ploughed field, but is protected from encroachment by a wall which surrounds it on all sides. The wall however, is built close up to the two ends, and, at any rate at the west end, part of the barrow is continued into the field beyond the wall. The barrow itself stands high and appears perfect and unopened. There are no signs anywhere of attempted mutilation. It is thinly planted with trees; it would be worth while taking immediate steps to preserve it, as these un mutilated Long Barrows are exceedingly rare. The surrounding wall needs repair in many places. There are no signs of the original surrounding wall or of any ditches.

Visited November 20th, 1920.

*W.* 39.

## COLLEGE PLANTATION BARROW

Gloucestershire, 42 S.E. Parish of Duntisbourne Rouse. 19\*.

Latitude  $51^{\circ} 45' 08''$ . Longitude  $2^{\circ} 03' 31''$ . Height above O.D. about 690 feet.

Excavated in 1882 by Witts with the permission of Lord Bathurst. "The two mounds formed the ends of a huge Long Barrow, having a total length of 210 feet. The central portion of the tumulus must have been removed ages back. The circumscribing wall is in a good state of preservation on the south side. The direction of the barrow is nearly





COLNPEN



BELAS KNAP

Passage leading to chamber—showing original dry-stone walling. (See p. 79)

## GLOUCESTERSHIRE

east and west. Further examination will, I hope, enable me to give a fuller description of this very interesting prehistoric monument at a future time. During the late excavation one very perfectly formed flint scraper was found, and several small bones. Part of the outside wall at the west end was removed a few years back, but no interments have yet been found. There are several round barrows in the immediate neighbourhood, and Pinbury Camp is only one mile distant on the south."

Visited December 13th, 1920. It now stands in a beech plantation called College Plantation. There is a deep excavation (evidently left open by Witts) in the western of the two mounds, and another in the eastern. There is no sign of any chamber, walling, large stones, or other indications of chambers. It seems that Witts' excavations were not resumed. Some correspondence relating to this barrow is preserved amongst Witts' papers at the Cheltenham Town Museum; but, though quite entertaining, it contains very few details of archæological interest. The "excavations" appear to have been *begun* to obtain road-making material; and it seems to have been due to Witts that they were stopped. A communication to the B. and G. Society, promised on Witts' behalf by Sir Wm. Guise, does not appear to have been printed.

W. 12.

*Glouc. N. and Q.*, II., 1884, 169.

## COLNPEN BARROW

Gloucestershire, 43 S.E.      Parish of Coln Rogers.      20\*.

Latitude  $51^{\circ} 46' 25''$ .      Longitude  $1^{\circ} 54' 06''$ .      Height above O.D. about 520 feet.

This barrow is marked on the Ordnance Survey Map, but is not mentioned by Witts. It is a fine specimen, but the ends have, as usual, been tampered with, especially the east end. It is, however, so long (300 feet) that it is practically certain to contain chambers in the central portion; and as a matter of fact, the digging appears less extensive than is usually the case. A trench seems to have been dug along the centre at the west end. It stands in a ploughed field, but is not under plough, the mound being covered with grass; there are four thorn bushes. Close by the east end is a Round Barrow, and less than 300 yards to the north, on the edge of the valley, are three unopened Round Barrows in a row.



## LONG BARROWS

None of the four were marked on the map. There appears to be a spring about a quarter of a mile to the S.W. where two valleys meet, that of Calmsden and the one above which the barrows stand. It is oriented E. and W. (slightly north of east).

Visited December 22nd, 1920.

## COW COMMON

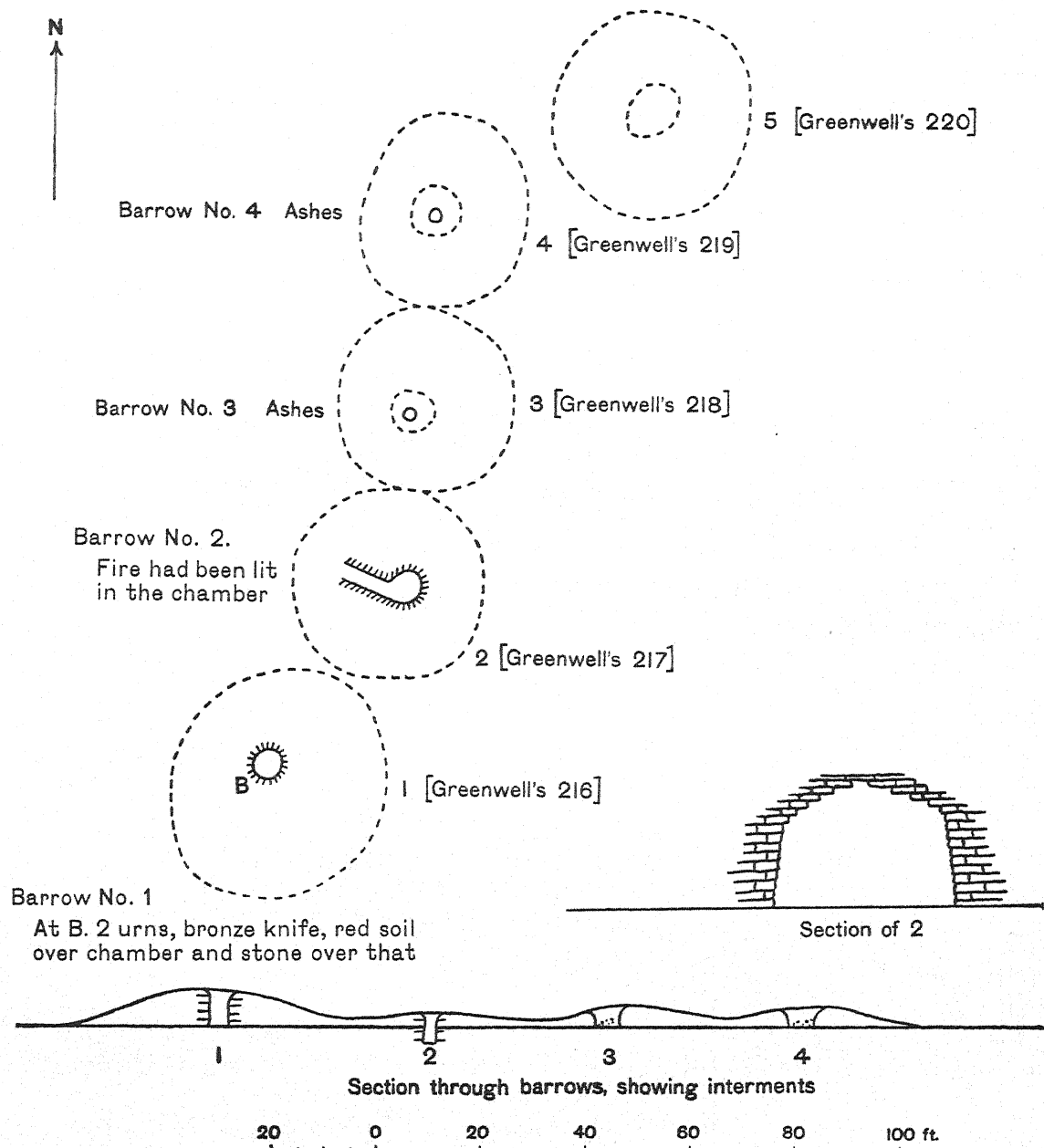
Gloucestershire, 21 S.E.      Parish of Lower Swell.      21\*.

Latitude  $51^{\circ} 56' 04''$ .      Longitude  $1^{\circ} 48' 12''$ .      Height above O.D. about 620 feet.

This is Witts' No. 29, Rolleston's "Swell," and Greenwell's 229. Witts' measurements are, length, 150 feet; greatest width, 77 feet; greatest height, 5 feet. It is oriented E.S.E. and W.N.W. He says: "It is entirely composed of slabs and rubble, and is surrounded by a carefully constructed wall of Stonesfield slate; this wall was 2 ft. 3 ins. high on the south side. The chief chamber was on the north side, 55 feet from the east end, and was discovered by the Rev. David Royce in 1867. The sides of the chamber were constructed of large upright stones, one being 3 ft. 6 ins. by 2 ft. 4 ins., the chamber itself being 3 ft. square. It contained three skeletons, and to the S.W. of it five other skeletons were found. The chamber had a passage leading to it from the surrounding wall. Another chamber was found 30 ft. from the east end, measuring 6 ft. by 4 ft. 8 ins., of an oval form; it contained bones of two adults and one infant, two flint flakes, several fragments of pottery, etc. This barrow assumed the 'horned' shape at the east end."

The following is a summary of the description of the bones found, taken from Rolleston's account:—(1) a woman, past the middle period of life, stature 4 ft. 9 ins.; cephalic index ("approximately, but the skull is broader as restored than it was in nature") 78. (2) a man, past the middle period of life; cephalic index ("approximately") 70. (3) strong man, past middle period of life, stature 5 ft. 6 ins.; cephalic index 64. (4) part of frontal and right molar and maxillaries of a strong young man, *æt.* 20 to 24. (5) old woman, stature 4 ft. 10 ins. "It contrasts very markedly as regards size, with the other female skull procured from this barrow (No. 1) into the inside of which it could be put. . . might be taken as a fair specimen of the River Bed type of Professor Huxley." Cephalic index 70. Professor Rolleston remarks on the fact that most of the bones from this barrow were deeply stained with manganese.

# GLOUCESTERSHIRE



Plan of Round Barrows on the Cow Common, Nether Swell. Glouc. [21. S.E.]

Surveyed by Sir Henry Dryden, October 13th, 1874.

## LONG BARROWS

Visited November 17th, 1920. It lies in a grass field recently under plough, and was once surrounded by a rectangular fence. The wire, however, is gone, and only the wooden posts remain. The barrow itself is in a deplorable condition. It is impossible to make out any kind of plan, and no attempt seems to have been made by Mr. Royce to fill in his "excavations." All that can be seen now is a shapeless hummocky mess.

Witts says that there are eight round barrows in the same field (his Nos. 39-46). As a matter of fact there are nine round barrows in it; four in a row N. and S. at the west end of the field (Greenwell's Nos. 216-219, numbering from south to north); another immediately adjacent at the north end of the row, but out of the line at its N.E. terminus (Greenwell's No. 220); two close to the Long Barrow, one of them at the S.W. end and the other 40 yards east of the east end; and two between the Long Barrow and the first group of four.

W. 29.

*Journ. Anat. and Phys.* (precise reference unobtainable).

*J.A.I.* V. 1876, 139-153. Plan, Plate iv. (Rolleston's "Swell I.")

*British Barrows*, 513. (Greenwell's 229).

## CRICKLEY BARROW

Gloucestershire, 44 N.W. Parish of Coln St. Dennis. 22\*.

Latitude  $51^{\circ} 48' 15''$ . Longitude  $1^{\circ} 51' 10''$ . Height above O.D. 576 feet.

Referring to this and to the other Crickley Barrow (W. 10), Witts says: "There are two Long Barrows at Crickley Barrow, two miles south of Northleach, adjoining the ancient Salt Way, but as far as I know they have never been examined or described, and without a thorough exploration with pickaxe and shovel, it would be impossible to say anything definite about them."

There is an unconscious irony in the above description. Evidently Witts had never seen either barrow, for this one has been so thoroughly dug over that it is hardly to be recognised as a barrow at all! The grass, too, grows thick and close all over its pitted surface, showing that the digging took place a very long time ago, probably over a hundred years ago, when the road which runs past it was first metalled. Its mangled remains now lie on a piece of waste land at the meeting-place

## GLOUCESTERSHIRE

of four roads, one of which—the Salt Way—is followed by a parish boundary. As far as I could judge when I visited it (December 22nd, 1920), it was originally between 250 and 280 feet long. Its original shape, and even its outline as a barrow, is entirely lost, so that it is not possible to say which end was highest. It is oriented N.N.W. and S.S.E. The Salt Way crosses the southern end, as is shown by a hump in the road. A sign-post stands on the northern end.

W. 9.

### CRIPPETS BARROW

(often described as "The Shurdington Barrow")

Gloucestershire, 34 N.E.      Parish of Coberley.      23\*.

Latitude  $51^{\circ} 51' 17''$ .      Longitude  $2^{\circ} 05' 43''$ .      Height above O.D. about 850 feet.

Lies in Barrow Piece Plantation. Length, 189 feet; maximum width, 100 feet; height, 12 to 20 feet. Oriented east and west. Witts says: "Many years ago the tenant of the land began to move away part of the earth at the southern extremity, and in doing so uncovered a cromlech, in which was found a skeleton and several articles of which no satisfactory account can now be obtained. . . It has never been thoroughly examined though it has been carefully protected by placing a fence round it. . . . There are two Round Barrows in the same field." Said (*J.B.A.A.* I. 153), to have been "opened formerly by Lysons, in which he found under a kistvaen a skeleton in a stone coffin." Witts' account is quoted from *J.B.A.A.* III, 64. (March 19th, 1847. Mr. Wright).

Visited December 20th, 1920. The field in which it stands has since been planted with firs, and a clump of dark pines on and round the barrow itself, make it conspicuous as one approaches from the east. The whole of the east (highest) end has been dug out, leaving a huge crater in which lies one large, flat stone. This appears to have been part of a chamber or portal, and there are suggestions of walling which a little excavation might reveal. Otherwise the barrow is unmutilated. The signs of walling now visible round the edge are probably modern. The fence has disappeared.

W. II.

*J.B.A.A.*, I., 153., III., 64.

T. Wright, *Celt, Roman and Saxon*, 1875, pp. 53, 74.

*Anthropological Review*, III. pp. LXVI, LXXI.

*Arch.* XLII., 201.

## LONG BARROWS

### EDGORTH BARROW

See JUNIPER HILL BARROW, p. 107.

### EYFORD BARROW

Gloucestershire, 21 S.E.

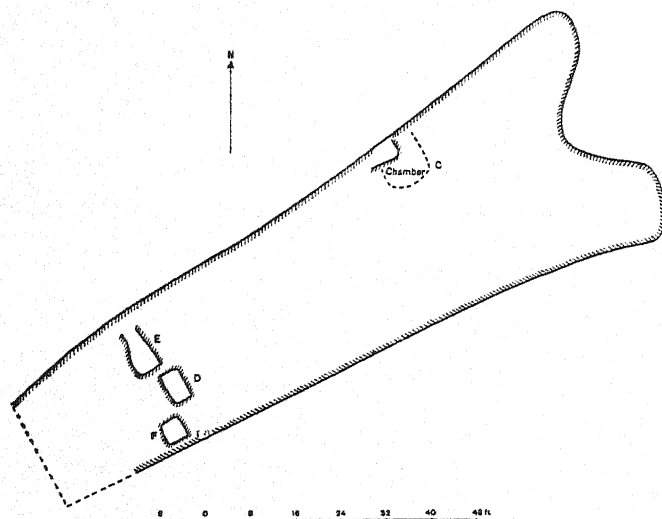
Parish of Eyford.

24\*.

Latitude  $51^{\circ} 55' 50''$ . Longitude  $1^{\circ} 47' 44''$ . Height above O.D. about 620 feet.

Visited November 17th, 1920, and again October 21st, 1922. It stands in a ploughed field, and at present is in much the same dilapidated condition as the other "excavated" barrows in the district. It is

covered with rough grass and a few bushes, and a single thorn stands a few yards to the N.W. of it.



Surveyed by Sir Henry Dryden, October 13th, 1874.

The following is a summary of Rolleston's lengthy account of it, printed in *J.A.I.*:—It was examined in September, 1874 by Professor Rolleston, the Rev. David Royce and Canon Greenwell, and a plan made by Sir H. Dryden. The distance from the west end "as restored to the centre point of the eastward

end was 108 feet. The distance between the tips of the two horns was 44 feet; the barrow tapered gradually from this, its extreme width, to a width of 24 feet at its westward end." The height was about 4 feet. The two horns were not symmetrical. The limiting wall was made of the local Stonesfield slate "arranged in about 14 horizontal rows, and forming a boundary about 2 feet wide and 1 foot 9 inches high. The



## GLOUCESTERSHIRE

body of the barrow was formed of stones, with a general inclination inwards towards the middle line from either side." Three cists and one chamber were found.

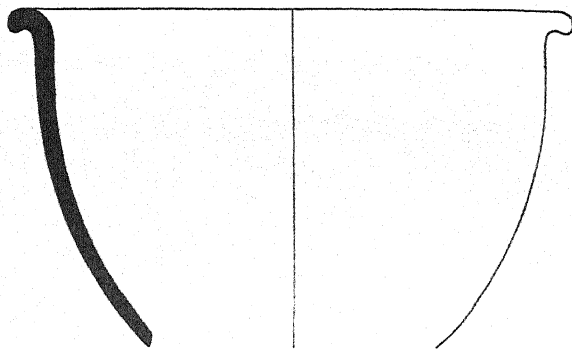
(1) Chamber marked C on the plan, more or less ruined before excavations were begun. Fragmentary remains of two bodies were found. One of these had been an adult, one a child, with the milk dentition only in place. The bones of the adult were discoloured with manganic oxide, as were those of an ox and horse found with them; those of the child were not."

(2) Cist, marked D on the plan. "It was 80 feet from the re-entering angle at the eastward end, and being about 5 feet 6 inches by 4 feet, had its long axis at right angles to, and in the middle line of the barrow." In this cist were found parts of two adult human skeletons, of the skeletons of three children, of one child and of a dog. The femur of a sheep and the bone of a pig were also found. One of the adults was a man of moderate strength, past the middle period of life; the other was a woman, 4 feet 10 inches in height. The woman's femur was 16 inches long, and both it and the other bones found in this cist give the idea "of their owners having had hard work and poor food." Three of the children were between the ages of seven and eight; the child was two years old.

(3) Cist, marked E on the plan. "It was 4 feet 6 inches wide at its widest part, 3 feet at its narrower. . . . Its narrower end was within a couple of feet of the north wall of the barrow; its south-east angle was 82 feet from the re-entering angle of the east end." Parts of ten skeletons were found. The following is a summary of their chief features:—(a) Skull with part of lower jaw of a strong man in the middle period of life; cephalic index, 72. (b) Skull, with part of lower jaw of a woman past middle life. (The bead of Kimmeridge shale was found in association with this skull or the preceding); cephalic index, 77. (c) "Portion of calvaria of, probably, woman in or past middle period of life. (d) Skull of woman in middle period of life; cephalic index, 72. (e) Skull, complete, of a man in middle period of life; cephalic index (approx.) 74. (f) Mandible of strong man about 30. (g) Mandible of old man or woman. (h) Remains of a child of 11-12 years. (i) Skull of an old woman (?) cephalic index (approx.) 75; but it seems to have been mixed up with other bones belonging to a strong man (j) whose height was 5 feet 6 inches.

## LONG BARROWS

(4) Cist, marked F on the plan. "In it were found the bones of but a single individual, a young person between the age of 12 and 16. . . and an urn\* of black, coarse ware of quite different character from the one already spoken of as found placed superficially to the second 'cist' [and which he calls a 'drinking-cup']. This cist was about 4 feet square; it was close upon the southern wall of the barrow, and about 85 feet from the re-entering angle of its eastern end." Lastly, outside the cists altogether "at about 17 or 18 feet westwards from the centre point of the eastward end were found some bones of a child with the milk dentition in place, about 2 feet or halfway down in the barrow. Parts also, of an ulna, of a tibia, of the phalanges and of both temporals of an adult, were found at about the same distance from the east end, and at a point a little south by west of the middle line."



0 1 2 3 4 inches

URN FOUND IN CIST F, EYFORD,  
now in The British Museum. 1:4

The shale bead found in Cist E is slightly oval in outline and much flattened; the perforation has been made from both ends and is very wide. It closely resembles the bead found at Notgrove, No. 41. (see p. 117).

The present locality of some of the objects found above is not known, but the bead and fragment of pot are with the rest of Dr. Greenwell's

\* Canon Greenwell adds the following description (*Brit. Bars.*, p. 520):—"In front of the knees was part of a vessel of pottery, including a considerable portion of the rim, which had not been less than 9 inches in diameter. It is dark coloured and quite plain, having some broken stone mixed with the clay; the bottom has been rounded and the rim has a recurved lip. It differs entirely from the ordinary sepulchral ware of the round barrows, but corresponds with pottery I have found in the condition of pieces of broken vessels on several occasions in the barrows of the Yorkshire Wolds. It has been in general shape not unlike Fig. 91, though not so flat on the bottom and somewhat deeper." A drawing of the pot is given here. It is now in the British Museum, and I am indebted to Mr. E. Thurlow Leeds, for drawing my attention to it, and to Mr. Kendrick for having the drawing made.

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collection in the British Museum in Case 10 in the Bronze Age Room; and most of Rolleston's things are packed up in the Oxford University Museum.

*W.* 14.

*Brit. Bar.*, p. 514, Fig. 162 (bead), (Greenwell's 230).

*J.A.I.*, v., 1876, pp. 153-165, plate 5. (Rolleston's "Swell vi.")

### FARMINGTON LONG BARROW

Gloucestershire, 36 N.E. Parish of Eastington. 25\*.

Latitude  $51^{\circ} 50' 15''$ . Longitude  $1^{\circ} 49' 14''$ . Height above O.D. about 620 feet.

"This lies inside the entrenchments of Norbury Camp, in the parish of Farmington [*sic*, for Eastington]. . . . It is 200 feet in length 100 feet wide and 5 feet high, its direction being S.E. and N.W. There is a large stone lying flat on the surface which may probably belong to one of the chambers. The barrow has never been examined."

Visited November 20th, 1920. It stands in the S.W. corner of Norbury Camp, in a ploughed field, and is ploughed all over. It is therefore in danger of eventual destruction. The large flat stone mentioned by Wits is no longer visible. The barrow appears perfect and unmutilated. It is broader at the S.E. end.

*W.* 40. (Quoted above).

### GANBOROUGH

Gloucestershire, 22 N.W. Parish of Longborough. 26\*.

Latitude  $51^{\circ} 57' 31''$ . Longitude  $1^{\circ} 44' 50''$ . Height above O.D. about 730 feet.

Situated immediately west of the Stow-Evesham main road, about 100 yards north of the entrance to Banks Fee House. It was marked as a tumulus on the Ordnance Map (edition of 1903) and is mentioned by Wits as a round barrow (*W.* 52 Round). It is however, undoubtedly a Long Barrow. It is about 160 feet long, and is higher and broader at the S.E. end, which is slightly truncated by the wall separating the field from the main road. At this point in the wall, and on the highest point of the barrow, stands an ash tree. There is a depression at the east end, which doubtless represents some unrecorded excavation. The whole barrow is ploughed over and stands in an arable field without any protection. Visited November 18th, 1920.

## LONG BARROWS

### GATCOMBE LODGE BARROW

Gloucestershire, 50 S.W. Parish of Minchinhampton. 27\*.

Latitude  $51^{\circ} 41' 45''$ . Longitude  $2^{\circ} 10' 05''$ . Height above O.D. about 580 feet.

This barrow is unaccountably omitted by Witts, though marked on the Ordnance Map. The following is the only published account of it :—

“The belief that these tumuli contained treasure led to the disturbance of the remarkably fine barrow (No. 4), which occupies the ridge immediately above the northern entrance to Gatcombe Park. About 60 years ago [this would be in 1810] a poor woman, who, from the faith she placed in her dreams of hidden treasure, gained the sobriquet of ‘Molly Dreamer,’ spent much time in digging into this and other barrows of the neighbourhood. Within the present year [1870] this tumulus has been opened by our associate, Canon Lysons, and at the eastern end two very large stones occupying the centre of the mound, were uncovered. Dwarf walls neatly constructed of Stonesfield slate curve in from the east and terminate at these stones, and by openings made in the sides of the tumulus indications were obtained that this dwarf wall extends round the whole mound.”

The following footnote is added :—“April, 1871. At the time the above mentioned examinations were made no chamber was met with, but since then a fine stone chamber has been accidentally discovered by a workman in Mr. Ricardo’s employ. It occupies a spot on the northern side, nearly at the widest part of the tumulus, and is 8 feet long, 4 feet wide, 5 feet 6 inches high, and has an entrance porch 3 feet square ; this porch was faced by two stones so placed as to give access by a small opening between them. This structure is formed by seven stones placed on edge, and the sepulchral chamber is covered with a massive stone, 9 feet 6 inches long and 5 feet 6 inches wide. The spaces between the upright stones are filled in by walls of Stonesfield slate very neatly arranged, and in some parts these are brought over towards the top so as to meet the covering stone. One skeleton was found ; the corpse had apparently been placed in a sitting position at the farthest end of the chamber. The skull measured 8 inches in length and 5 inches in breadth.”

Visited November 30th, 1920. The barrow stands in a wood, and is thinly planted with beeches. The chamber on the north side is in a



GATCOMBE LODGE  
Entrance to chamber on north side





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perfect state of preservation, the stones looking as clean and fresh as if they had been placed in position yesterday. In the method of its construction it resembles Hetty Pegler's Tump at Uley. The large capstone covering the chamber rests on five uprights, and the entrance is flanked by two more. Between these and the interior of the chamber are two of the five uprights which are placed at right angles to the rest (*i.e.*, in an east-west direction) recalling those similarly placed at the entrance to the chamber at Wayland's Smithy. The spaces between the uprights are filled in with dry masonry, the larger slabs being near the top and overlapping successively so as to narrow the roof space to be covered. Some of these stones have been broken by the weight of the capstone. In the S.E. corner of the chamber is a raised niche, consisting of a "shelf" with a large flat stone lying on smaller stones built up in layers. The two very large stones—those described above as "occupying the centre of the mound"—are evidently remains of a portal. It is difficult to make out the plan, but would not be impossible with a little excavation. There are no visible signs of the surrounding wall, which seems to have curved inwards exactly as at Uley, Belas Knap and elsewhere.

Since the above account was written, I have come across, by a happy accident, a letter from Lysons giving a fuller account of his activities. It is pasted into Vol. XLII of *Archæologia*, in the copy at Devizes belonging to the Wiltshire Archæological Society. It occurs at p. 217 where Thurnam is describing the chambers of some of the Gloucestershire Long Barrows. I quote it in full :—

Hempsted Court,

July, 25th, 1870.

My dear Dr. Thurnam,

I am very glad, as it turned out, that you did not come to Minchinhampton, as the result of my investigation was not as satisfactory as I could have wished. I was aware that the tumulus had been opened before, but as the two shoulders were intact I had hoped from the shape that we might have found some chambers similar to those at Rodmarton, and those which were in the tumulus at Avening in the immediate vicinity. In this I was quite disappointed. I opened a considerable trench on both sides without any result. The barrow is constructed for the most part like others on the Cotteswold Hills with less art. I opened the altar at the east end where there are two large stones about 9 feet in diameter. From there being only two, I

## LONG BARROWS

conjecture that the third is that in the adjoining field called the Long Stone (*see* p. 113); and that an attempt must have been made in former times to carry it away; but becoming tired with the trouble and expense, the spoilers tilted it up where it stands now. [*This absurd conjecture may be entirely disregarded*]. The approach to the altar was walled in very neatly after the fashion of that at Rodmarton and elsewhere with many thin tile-stones. Beneath the altar I found one skull complete, except the jaws, of a youth or young woman, many bones of animals, mostly calves, and several pieces of very early pottery, considerable evidences of cremation, but the whole had been disturbed soon after the time of the introduction of tobacco into this country; for three feet below the surface we found the bowl of one of those very small tobacco pipes then in vogue. No metal of any sort, no flints; the pottery was very imperfectly burnt, and yet on some of it there was an appearance of *glaze*, and some few bits were slightly figured. The pottery was very thick. I shall place the skull, together with the Rodmarton Britons, in my case ready for your inspection when you come this way.

I remain, my dear Sir,

Yours very truly,

SAMUEL LYSONS.

*Proc. C.N.F.C.*, v., 1872, p. 279. (Quoted above, second and third paragraphs.)

## GIANT'S STONE BARROW

Gloucestershire, 42 S.W. Parish of Bisley-with-Lypiatt. 28\*.

Latitude  $51^{\circ} 45' 12''$ . Longitude  $2^{\circ} 07' 09''$ . Height above O.D. 679 feet.

"The barrow has been removed, or nearly so, leaving some of the stones which formed the chambers, especially a large one locally known as 'The Giant's Stone.'"

Visited December 6th, 1920. The remains of this barrow lie in the S.W. corner of a triangular piece of rough pasture, covered all over with the remains of old quarryings. It is on the north side of the road, immediately opposite Battlescombe Farm. The remains consist of two vertical moss grown slabs, about 6 inches apart, placed parallel to each other, the tops about 2 feet above the ground. The long axes are due east and west. There are slight indications of the presence of a mound.

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Quarrying is now in progress only 20 yards to the N.E. and is advancing in the direction of the stones. There is little left to preserve except the stones, but they are worth preservation.

The "many hundred suspicious-looking depressions adjoining the barrow" mentioned by Witts, are merely old quarry pits.

The field on the N.W. is called "Giant's Ground" on the Tithe Map of Bisley (1873). This fact confirms the identification of the stones described by Witts.

W. 15. (Quoted above).

## HAZLETON (SOUTH)

Gloucestershire, 28 S.W.      Parish of Hazleton.      29\*.

Latitude  $51^{\circ} 52' 03''$ .      Longitude  $1^{\circ} 53' 43''$ .      Height above O.D. about 820 feet.

"Lies in a field known as the Barrow Ground. . . . Its length is 150 feet, greatest width, 70 feet, present height about 5 feet, but originally it must have been more than double this height. Its direction is N.W. to S.E., the highest part being towards the S.E. The top of two upright stones, evidently forming the sides of a chamber, are visible on the surface of the ground, near the S.E. end; they lie parallel to each other and 10 feet apart. One stone measures on the top 1 foot 6 inches by 5 inches; the other 2 feet by 5 inches; but it is impossible to say what height they are without excavation. I found several worked flakes on the surface of the barrow, and I have heard of others being found since. The barrow has evidently been much damaged by the plough, but has not, I think, ever been examined. The interior is composed of oolitic slabs and Stonesfield slate."

Visited November 20th, 1920. It is in a fallow field and is being ploughed over, and therefore in danger of eventual destruction. There are no signs of the stones mentioned by Witts. There are some suggestions of disturbance at the S.E. end.

This barrow lies 80 yards to the S.W. of the next to be described (W. 17).

W. 16. (Quoted above).

## LONG BARROWS

### HAZLETON (NORTH)

Gloucestershire, 28 S.W.      Parish of Hazleton.      30\*.

Latitude  $51^{\circ} 52' 06''$ .      Longitude  $1^{\circ} 53' 40''$ .      Height above O.D. about 820 feet.

"The original length. . . must have been about 174 feet; greatest width, 78 feet; its present height being 9 feet. Its direction is east and west, the highest part being towards the east. The interior is composed of stone similar to the last (*W.* 16). I found a well-worked flint flake on the surface. This barrow has never been thoroughly examined, though many stones have been removed for road-making and wall building."

Visited November 20th, 1920. It is in a fallow field and is being ploughed over, and therefore in danger of eventual destruction. The highest part now is to the W.S.W. which would appear to be about 9 feet high. The rest of the barrow is very much lower. It stands 80 yards N.E. of *W.* 16. There are otherwise no signs of disturbance.

*W.* 17. (Quoted above).

### HETTY PEGLER'S TUMP

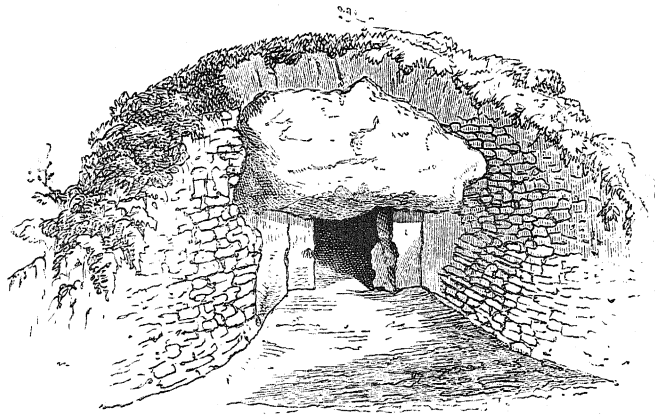
(often described as "The Uley Barrow.")

Gloucestershire, 49 S.W.      Parish of Uley.      31\*.

Latitude  $51^{\circ} 41' 53''$ .      Longitude  $2^{\circ} 18' 16''$ .      Height above O.D. 826 feet.

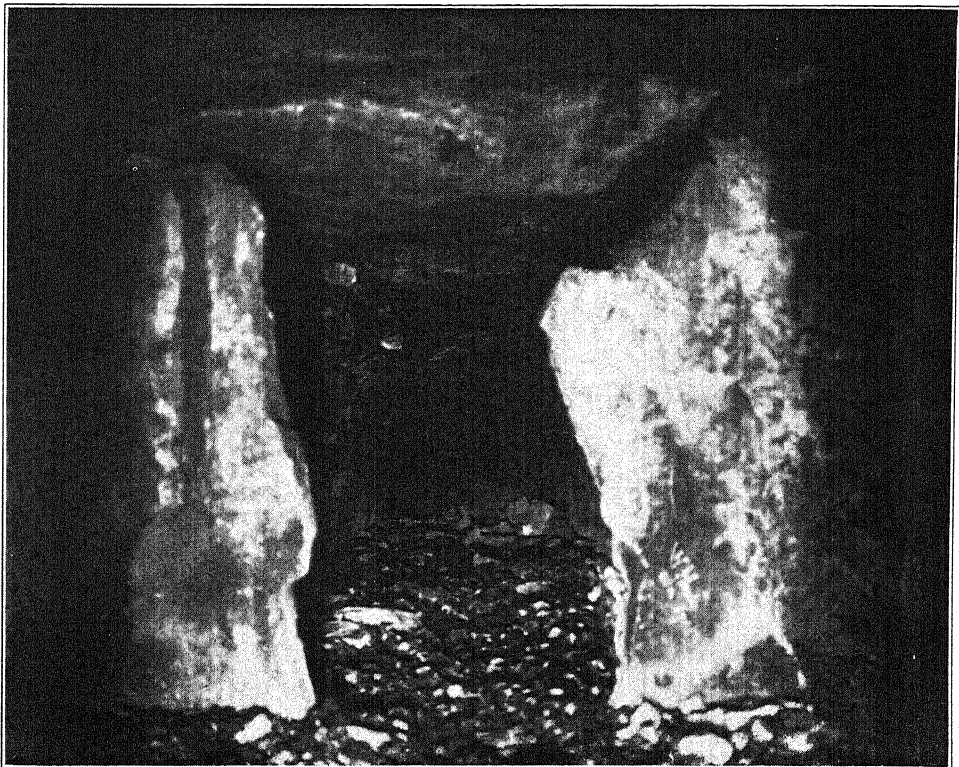
This Long Barrow was dug into in 1821 by Dr. Fry, and again by Dr. Thurnam and Professor E. A. Freeman in 1854. A full account of it is given in *Crania Britannica* as follows:—"The tumulus is about 120 feet in length, 85 feet in greatest breadth, and 10 feet in height, being both higher and broader at the east end than elsewhere. At this end and about 25 feet within the limits of the cairn, is the entrance to a chamber, formed by a large flat stone upwards of 8 feet in length and  $4\frac{1}{2}$  feet in depth, which rests on an upright stone on each side, so as to leave an opening of nearly 3 feet in height which was closed by a large flat stone. From this entrance a central gallery extends to the west, about 22 feet in length,  $4\frac{1}{2}$  feet in average width, and 5 feet in height. Two pairs of upright stones project at right angles with the interior of this gallery,





HETTY PEGLER'S TUMP

Original appearance of east end



HETTY PEGLER'S TUMP (interior)



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in such a way as to divide it in three unequal portions. Communicating with the central gallery, on each side, have been two chambers, each about  $4\frac{1}{2}$  feet in diameter. Those on the north side no longer exist, being in a ruinous condition when first discovered. The sides of this gallery and chambers are formed of large slabs of a rough unhewn oolitic stone, planted on their edges, and with the space between them filled up with dry walling of small stones, the corn-brash of the district, such as forms the body of the cairn. The roof is now formed of other large slabs of stone, laid across and resting on the uprights. When opened in 1821 the roof of the [western] side chamber was found to consist of a 'horizontal arch,' formed by the courses of stone near the top of the walls overhanging each other and gradually contracting the aperture, which was closed in by a single flat stone [capstone]. There is reason to conjecture that the whole roof, like those of the chambered tumuli at Stoney Littleton and Nempnett [Fairy Tout] in Somersetshire [at Gatcombe Lodge, Gloucestershire] and at New Grange and Dowth in Ireland, had been originally of this character ; as there was distinct evidence of the whole having been more or less disturbed at a very early period, and the chambers entered from above. The cairn of stones heaped over the chambers had been neatly finished round its outer border with a dry walling, carried to the height of from 2 to 3 feet, which communicated by an internal sweep, with similar walling extending from the entrance to the chambers. At the west end, these walls are intersected by others at right angles. . . . the object of which it is difficult to understand. . . . [Similar walling was observed in the chambered cairn at St. Nicholas, Glamorgan, by Mr. John Ward, F.S.A. See *Arch. Camb.*, 6. S. xv., 253-320 ; xvi., 1916, 239-294].

" Among the stones external to the entrance, about  $2\frac{1}{2}$  feet above the level of the chambers, were two human skeletons ; and near these, and close to the large stone closing the entrance, the lower jaws, with the teeth of several wild boars, but no other bones, not even the skulls of these animals. Some of the tusks measure as much as from 6 to 7 inches on the outer curve. In the interior were the remains of thirteen human skeletons, six of which were in the central gallery. Most of them had been much disturbed, but one, about 3 feet within the entrance, retained very much its original posture—the sitting, or rather, squatting—the head having fallen forward in decay. Another, near the further end of the gallery, had been deposited on the back ; near this were some

## LONG BARROWS

bones and teeth of a graminivorous animal. In the [eastern] side-chamber were four skeletons, one of which was that of a woman. Above these, mixed with the stones and rubbish with which the chamber was filled, were some pieces of coarse earthenware and charcoal, a few scattered human bones, and a small vessel described as 'resembling a Roman lachrymatory,' but which cannot now be found. In [the western] chamber were some pieces of pottery and charcoal and parts of one human skeleton. In the ruinous [eastern] chamber [on the north side] were two skeletons. Over this last chamber, and near the highest part of the cairn, within about 6 inches of the surface, was a skeleton lying about N.E. and S.W., with which were three Roman third brass coins of the lower Empire, and described as of the three sons of Constantine. This was doubtless a secondary interment of the late Roman period, at which time it is possible the interior was first rifled, from the roof of the chamber having been discovered in making this very interment.

" When the cairn was reopened [in 1854 by Dr. Thurnam] a heap of human bones, most of them much broken, was found at the west end of the gallery ; there were no burnt bones. Altogether there were fragments of eight or nine skulls. Among the other bones there were two upper dorsal vertebræ united by ankylosis, and it is to be remarked that two others in the same condition, taken from the same spot in 1821 are preserved in the Museum at Guy's Hospital. There were also a few bones of ruminant animals, and portions of the jaws of boars, with teeth and fragments of tusks. One of the latter had been cut and perforated as if for suspension, as an amulet or trophy. There were two or three oyster shells, much decayed, a few fragments of red pottery of the coarsest kind, well burnt, but whether of the Romano-British or Mediæval period could not be ascertained, as no part of any rim or moulding remained. At the base of the cairn, in the approach to the entrance, two flint flakes were found, one of them darkly stained. As flint does not occur in the strata of the district, these must be regarded, almost with certainty, as fragments of arrowheads or other implements of the period when the tumulus was erected. This is an inference still further confirmed by the discovery of two stone axeheads in the immediate neighbourhood of the cairn. One of these axeheads, now in the Museum at Guy's Hospital, is of flint, the other of hard greenstone ; they measure each 4 inches in length by 2 inches in breadth. . . . Two crania only from the Uley

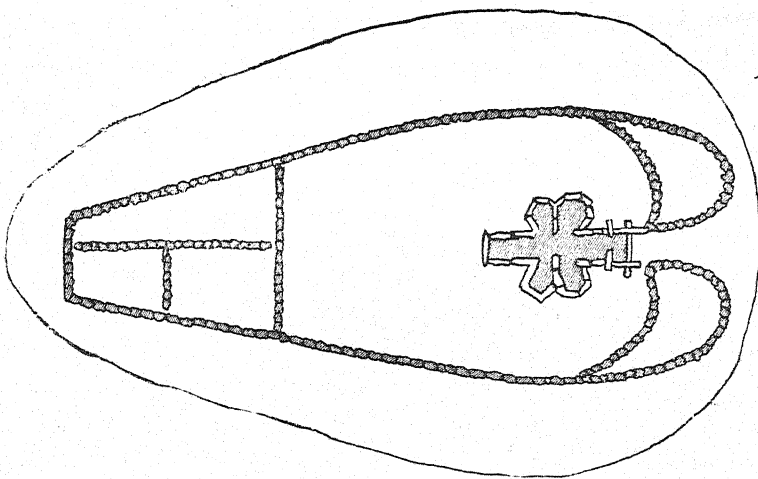


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tumulus have been preserved and these were presented to the Museum of Guy's Hospital (See Nos. 3200 and 3201), by the late Dr. Fry, who had himself taken them from the chambers."

Dr. Thurnam then proceeds to give an account of each of these skulls. They are still in the Museum of Guy's Hospital, and are described in the catalogue of 1829 (by Thomas Hodgkin, M.D.). There are now three skulls and one cast and one mandible and one cast, all said to have come from this barrow. The greenstone axe has disappeared; at any rate its present locality cannot be discovered. The other is in Guy's Hospital Museum and is described in the catalogue of 1829 as follows:—"3205. Two flint (*sic*) axe-heads found in the vicinity of the tumulus from which the preceding specimens were taken."

I have visited the barrow twice. The entrance and eastern end of the barrow is enclosed by a railing and is under the protection of the Ancient Monuments Board. The keys are kept in a cottage at Nympsfield. The western end of the barrow is open and under grass; but standing



PLAN OF HETTY PEGLER'S TUMP (after Thurnam),  
with chambers on north side of passage restored. 1:360

as it does, in a ploughed field there is danger of gradual encroachment which may eventually destroy the surrounding wall of the cairn. The walling of the entrance appears modern. Thurnam's plan is partly a res-

toration. He nowhere states whether the chambers on the northern side ("in a ruinous condition") were sufficiently perfect for any measurements to be taken; or whether the dotted outlines on his plan (*Cran. Brit.*, Uley, p. 2), are purely conjectural. This is unfortunate, for the



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plan has frequently been reproduced (as here, on p. 105) with *both* chambers shown in firm lines as if the evidence were equally good for both, which is certainly untrue, and was not intended by Thurnam. A further criticism of Thurnam's plan is that the surrounding wall is more likely to have been rectangular than oval. This is certainly so at Stoney Littleton in Somersetshire and in the case of most of those Long Barrows whose surrounding walls have been carefully excavated. The corners naturally tend to disappear and thus the whole comes to present a rounded outline very deceptive to the observer. The electro of Thurnam's plan reproduced here differs in some respects from the original plan in *Archæologia* where a distinction is made between the chambers on the north and south sides.

The following extract from an ancient deed, printed in *Glouc. Notes & Queries*, is a sufficient explanation of the name of the barrow :—

“ Indenture dated 20th July, 29 Charles II., 1677, between Henry Pegler of Uley, gent., and Hester his wife (1) and William Heart of Uley, clerk (2). Sale for £9 of one acre of arable land, called the Headland, Uley, in the west field near to the messuage there. . . . called Wresden, *alias* The Cold Harbour. . . . abutting on the hedge westward.” I do not know the exact site of the land in question.

W. 34.

A.J. XI., 1854, p. 313.

Arch. XLII., 201 (Plan, p. 209).

Cran. Brit. Vol. II., 1865. (Plan of barrow  $\frac{1}{8}\frac{1}{10}$  and chamber  $\frac{1}{8}\frac{1}{10}$ ).

Trans. B. and G.A.S. v. 86.

T. Rice Holmes, *Ancient Britain*, 1907, p. 104, Fig. 16 (plan).

Glouc. N. and Q., Vol. v., 1894, 185.

## HOAR STONE BARROW

Gloucestershire, 42 S.E. Parish of Duntisbourne Abbots. 32\*.

Latitude  $51^{\circ} 45' 27''$ . Longitude  $2^{\circ} 03' 03''$ . Height above O.D. about 690 feet.

Length 120 feet ; width 90 feet. “ The largest stone at the east end has been long known by the name of the ‘ Hoar Stone ’ ; it is of the calcareous kind, 12 feet high, 13 feet in circumference and weighs between five and six tons ; it was half above and half underground.

## GLOUCESTERSHIRE

Another stone about 9 feet square and one foot thick lay on the ground ; this covered a chamber in which the remains of eight or nine human bodies were discovered. The chamber was divided into two cells about four feet square and six feet deep."

Visited December 13th, 1920. The mound appears almost as broad as it is long, but is evidently the remains of a Long Barrow. The two stones stand, one at the east end, and the other near the middle of the mound. The eastern one is not more than four feet above the surface of the mound (which is low and much spread). Close to it is a smaller stone. The western stone has collapsed and another smaller stone is partly covered by it. This (larger) stone is probably a capstone, the other an upright. Both appear to be *in situ*. The orientation of the mound is E.S.E.-W.N.W. It lies in a ploughed field and has been under plough until quite recently, but *not* last season, as the remains of a clover crop stop short all round the edge.

W. 18. (Quoted above).

*Arch.* xvi., 362. Report (of fourteen lines only) communicated to the Society of Antiquaries by the Rev. Anthony Preston, Rector of Edgeworth. Two Plates give views of the barrow and chambers before and after excavation.

*Gent. Mag.*, LXXVI., 1806. Plates 55 and 56, 871.

## JUNIPER HILL BARROW

Gloucestershire, 42 S.E. Parish of Edgeworth. 33\*.

Latitude 51° 45' 20". Longitude 2° 05' 58". Height above O.D. about 720 feet.

No excavation known. Visited December 6th, 1920. This is one of the most perfect and interesting Long Barrows I have seen anywhere. It is also one of the longest. It appears to be perfect except for a break near the middle, which does not however, look quite like the usual damage done by plunderers. The most striking peculiarity is a kind of "tail" at each end, consisting of a narrow prolongation of the mound itself. Otherwise the barrow is perfect and undisturbed. It is very narrow and steep for its size. There are no signs of any surrounding wall, or large stones anywhere. It stands in a wood and is thinly planted with firs. A large sycamore stands at the S.W. end, where also a fox (?) has recently made an excavation in the "tail," on the S.E. side. It is about 210 feet long, oriented N.N.E.-S.S.W. It is in no apparent danger.

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It is just possible that this may be two Long Barrows placed end to end as (according to Witts) at Camp. The fact that the greatest height occurs at the south end of what would be the northern barrow supports this conjecture.

W. 13. (Called "Edgworth Barrow.").

## LAMBOROUGH BANKS

(often described as "The Ablington Barrow.")

Gloucestershire, 44 N.W. Parish of Bibury. 34\*.

Latitude  $51^{\circ} 46' 59''$ . Longitude  $1^{\circ} 50' 38''$ . Height above O.D. 500 feet.

This is the one described by Witts as Ablington Barrow. It is wrongly marked on his map immediately east of Deadman's Acre Copse. Really it lies along the S.W. side of "Lamborough Banks Covert" (which an old man on the spot described to me as "Fox Covert"). Witts says: "This is situated in the parish of Ablington, about  $3\frac{1}{2}$  miles south of Northleach. It was opened in the year 1854 [by Lysons]. Direction, north and south; its length is about 270 feet, and greatest width 100 feet; its height at the northern end being 12 feet. It is composed of the common oolitic stone of the county. Unlike other barrows in the county, it is surrounded by a double wall of masonry, each having a face outwards and filled with rubble. Towards the north, these walls make a double curve inwards, and in the centre of this curve, between the two walls, stands a large stone, 6 feet high and 5 feet wide. An interment was found near the north end of the tumulus in a grave made of rough stones; a few worked flints were also found, but the barrow has never been thoroughly examined. Adjoining the barrow are the remains of a round hut built underground, formed of dry walling similar in character to that found in the tumulus."

I visited this barrow on December 22nd, 1920. The barrow is an example of a fine and, until recently, intact Long Barrow ruined by "excavation" and subsequent neglect. There are the remains of dry stone walling visible in two or three places and at the *south* end is an upright slab 4 feet 6 inches high and 5 feet wide, with a maximum thickness of 6 inches, set at right angles to the axis of the barrow, which is oriented

## GLOUCESTERSHIRE

S.S.E. and N.N.W. Elsewhere the mound is a maze of craters and any walling that once existed is probably now destroyed. The N. end is less dug over than the S., but there is a pit at the extremity. The whole mound is planted with trees, and the north end is overgrown with bramble and elder. Young ashes have taken root in the stony places where digging took place.

The site was revisited on October 25th, 1922. The length of the barrow by tape was found to be 279 feet. Dry walling, with an outer facing in each instance, was observed in two places, the width between the walling (measured at right angles to the axis of the barrow) being 27 feet at a point 55 feet N.W. of the upright stone. It is possible that these remains are those of the inner of the "double wall of masonry, each having a face outwards" mentioned above. The stone itself has had pieces knocked off it quite recently—since my first visit, I believe. A shepherd, whom I spoke to in an adjacent field, told me that the owner was much annoyed at this having been done. I asked him about the underground dwelling, but he could tell me little except that a tunnel was supposed to start in the copse (Fox Covert) in which the barrow stands. On the N.E. side of this copse are old diggings. Whether the "round hut built underground" was found during the work at these old diggings, or whether it originated from the story of the tunnel, I cannot say. But it is more likely that the discovery of a hut built underground gave rise to the tunnel story than *vice versa*. A similar tale is told of the Lodge Park Barrow. The discovery of an underground hut connected with a Long Barrow would be an event of the greatest importance. It is probable that Wits derived his information about the underground hut from Dr. Bird (unless both copied from Lysons). Dr. Bird's views were liable to rest upon imperfect or second-hand observation, and his statement must be accepted with caution. I give his account for what it may be worth. Speaking of the builders of Long Barrows, he says:—"Great skill is also shown in the construction of their dwellings. A circle about twelve feet in diameter, is sunk in the ground, three feet or so deep; the bottom is covered with flat stones, and a wall, except at the entrance, is raised about two feet high, around the circle, and covered with flat stones to form a seat; from the outside of the seat, dry walling, except at the entrance, is carried up four feet or more, with all the stones sloping outwards, square recesses for cupboards are formed; the stones are then gradually drawn inwards, to meet at the top, and

## LONG BARROWS

receive a large stone, and form a beehive-shaped cot. The entrance is formed of three large stones, one on each side, and the other resting upon them to receive the walling; and lastly the whole is covered with earth. When the Long Barrow at Bibury [the one I have called Lamborough Bank] was examined, there was a cot of such a character not far from the barrow. These cots are called 'Shepherds' Cots.' " How far is the Doctor describing what he has actually seen, and how far is he reconstructing the house of the living from that of the dead? Lysons was the first to describe the barrow, and he may have been the common source from which Bird and Witts copied. Lysons' actual description of the hut is as follows:—" In the immediate vicinity of the tumulus there exists a round hut underground, formed of dry walling similar to that employed in the construction of this tumulus. There were formerly more of them close at hand. They are called in the vernacular Shepherds' huts." He compares them with the Scottish Picts'-houses, saying, " the same little recesses and seats are found in both."

On page 318 Lysons gives a minute plan of the barrow and of a chamber at the north end formed of four upright slabs on each side and closed by another at each end. It seems to have had the same orientation as the barrow itself and contained the skeleton referred to above.

W. I. (quoted above).

S. Lysons, *Our British Ancestors*, 1865, pp. 318-20 (figs. and small plan).

Stevens, *Flint Chips*, p. 494.

*Anthropological Review*, Vol. III., 1863, p. LXXI (referred to only by Dr. Bird).

*Trans. B. and G.A.S.*, Vol. v., 1880-81, 30. (Dr. Bird).

*Arch.* XLII., 219, Figs. 13 and 14.

## LECHMORE BARROW

Gloucestershire, 57 N.E. (marked as Round Barrow on 1903 ed.)

Parish of Horsley.

35\*.

Latitude 51° 40' 44". Longitude 2° 12' 07". Height above O.D. about 580 feet.

Length 120 feet; width, 65 feet; height, 6 feet; oriented E. and W., highest end to east. Much disturbed. " In 1812 one chamber still remained, but the stones of which it was constructed have since been removed for building material, and the mound itself is now reduced



## GLOUCESTERSHIRE

in size year by year by the operation of the plough." (Witts, p. 81, quoting verbatim from Mr. G. F. Playne's paper below).

Visited December 4th, 1920. The process of gradual demolition recorded in 1870 is proceeding annually. Both ends are under plough. The orientation is approximately E.S.E. by W.N.W. A small pile of stones, doubtless collected from the ploughed ends (where there are many) is heaped upon the unploughed, grass-grown central mound. Some of these slabs are quite large. There is no sign of a surrounding wall or of ditches. It stands near the head of a steep coombe. I found numerous flint fragments near it. About 100 yards to the south in the same field is a stony depression which may be the remains of a quarry. It contains several large slabs and has the appearance of great antiquity. It is not under plough.

On the old one-inch Ordnance Map the barrow is called "Peaked Stone," in reference doubtless, to the remains of a portal or chamber now vanished. See also "Picked Stone" [No. 35 b].

W. 20.

*Proc. C.N.F.C.*, v., 1870, 280. (Mr. G. F. Playne).

## LEIGHTERTON

See WEST BARROW, p. 136.

## LINEOVER BARROW

Gloucestershire, 27 S.W. Parish of Dowdeswell. 36\*.

Latitude 51° 51' 55". Longitude 2° 00' 41". Height above O.D. about 910 feet.

This is certainly the *remains* of a Long Barrow. It is included by Witts under Round Barrows, but as he merely mentions it without describing its appearance, it is probable that he never examined it closely. From a distance it is a conspicuous object, and from the main road (Stow-on-the-Wold to Gloucester) which passes a few yards to the south of it, it has all the appearance of a Round Barrow. But from the top of the mound (and also from below it on the north) the faint stony remains of a prolongation westwards can be detected. In its present condition, therefore, it recalls Norn's Tump (No. 11) but on a smaller

## LONG BARROWS

scale. The existing mound is probably the eastern (and presumably highest) end, which has escaped the plough by its greater height. It now stands in a ploughed field but is not itself ploughed over, being grass-grown. The annual encroachments of the plough will however, eventually destroy it. The surviving mound has been dug into from the north side probably by someone who mistook it for a Round Barrow. Like the Withington Barrow (No. 57), it stands on the edge of the hill, but not on the highest point. I estimated its original length at 140-150 feet. The present height of the grass mound is about 5 to 6 feet. Visited December 21st, 1920.

W. 73. (*Round*).

## LODGE PARK BARROW

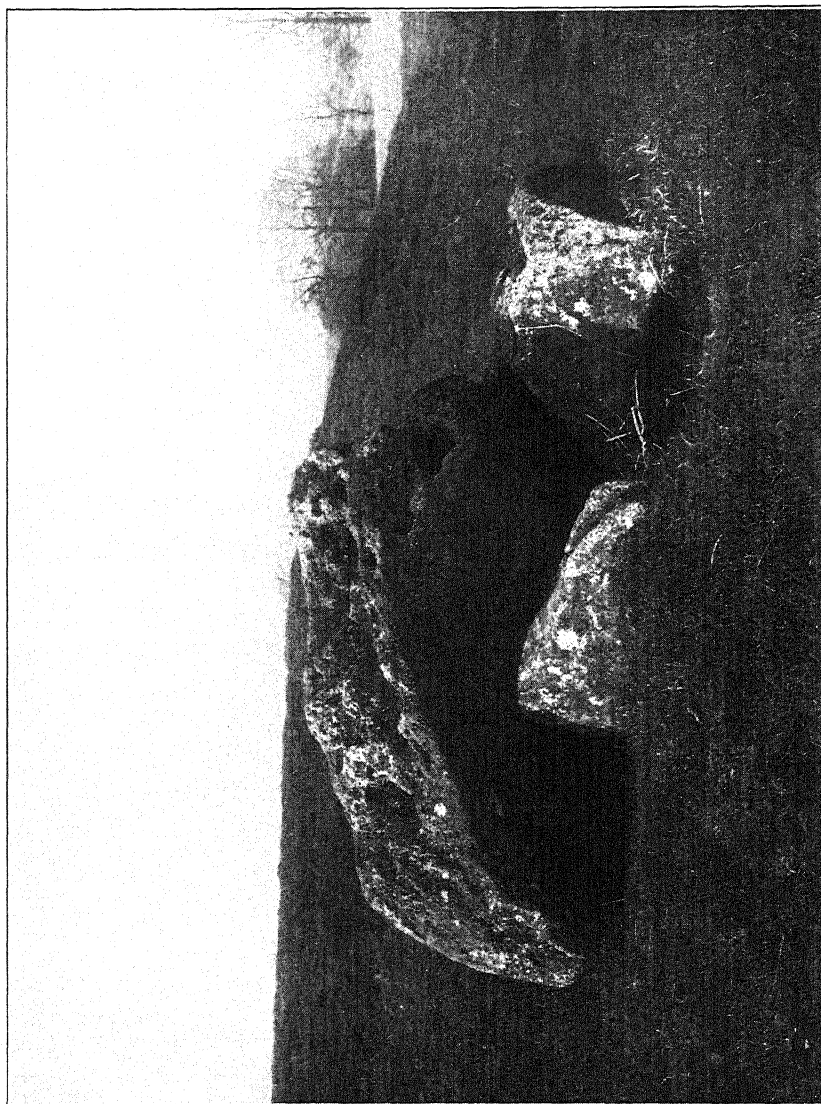
Gloucestershire, 36 S.E.      Parish of Farmington.      37\*.

Latitude  $51^{\circ} 48' 40''$ .      Longitude  $1^{\circ} 47' 35''$ .      Height above O.D. about 520 feet.

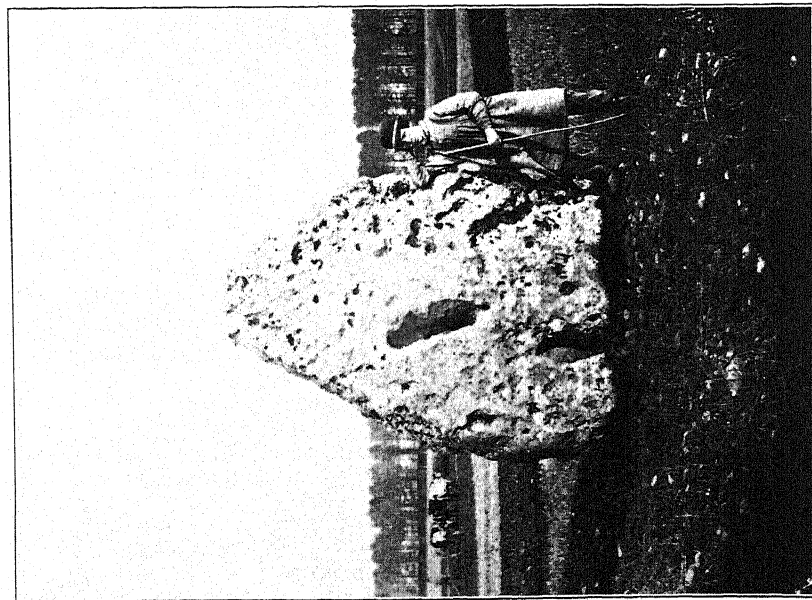
"There is a fine Long Barrow in Sherborne Lodge Park. . . . Its length is about 150 feet, and greatest width 70 feet. Some of the stones forming the chambers are visible on the surface. Its direction is S.E. and N.W., the highest portion lying towards the S.E. No examination has ever been made of the mound."

Marked by hachures as a long mound on the Ordnance Survey Map, but without any descriptive name on the 1903 edition.

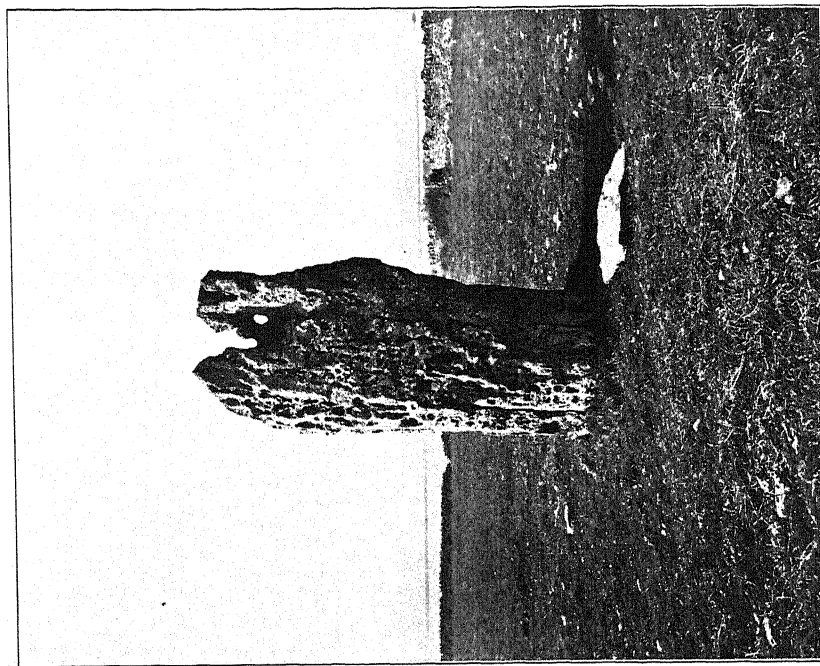
Visited December 22nd, 1920. This is the finest Long Barrow I have ever seen ; it is certainly the most perfect specimen in Gloucestershire, and should be left exactly as it is and never excavated, in order that posterity may be able to see at least one unmutilated Long Barrow. It stands on flat ground in a beautiful deer-park, near the edge of the Leach Valley, the water of which is only a quarter of a mile to the west. There are no trees growing on or near it, those marked near it on the 1903 edition having not long ago been cut down. The outline of the barrow is exactly that of the typical Long Barrow, given in Colt Hoare's "Ancient Wiltshire." At the east end the tops of two uprights protrude, covered by a lintel which has tilted backwards slightly. Immediately north are just the tops of other large stones flush with the



LODGE PARK  
The Portal



LONG STONE, Minchinhampton



HAWK STONE, SPELSBURY (p. 213)

## GLOUCESTERSHIRE

surface. On the north the ground is suggestive of a ditch, being soft and inhabited by rabbits. There are no signs of digging anywhere, and I can vouch for the correctness of Witts' statement to-day.

The site was re-visited on February 23rd, 1921 and measurements taken. Its length is 180 feet, and the breadth at the east end 120 feet. The orientation is N.W.-S.E. (magnetic). The lintel is 3 feet above the level of the ground on the east side, 8 feet wide and 1 foot 10 inches thick.

W. 23. (Quoted above).

## LONG STONE

Gloucestershire, 50 S.W. Parish of Minchinhampton. 38\*.

Latitude  $51^{\circ} 41' 51''$ . Longitude  $2^{\circ} 10' 07''$ . Height above O.D. 600 feet.

The Long Stone is a slab of oolite (locally known as "holey" stone) about 18 inches thick and 7 ft. 9 in. high, set on edge, the axis being approximately N.W.-S.E. It is perforated by two large and many small holes, all probably caused by weathering. The N.W. face of the stone is much more pitted and weathered than the other. There are a few slight irregularities in the surface of the ground around it, but nothing that could be called a barrow. Nevertheless I think that this stone is undoubtedly the last surviving fragment of the chamber of a Long Barrow. Rudge and Rudder (quoted by Thurnam) both support this view. Rudder says that the Long Stone, like the Tingle Stone, stood on the top of a tumulus or barrow. When Thurnam visited the spot in 1860, the barrow was scarcely visible, and the second "short stone" was found built into a stone wall which ran over the site of the mound, where it answered the purpose of a stile. Playne says that "superstitious mothers were in the habit of passing rickety children through a hole in this [bigger] stone with the idea that they would by such means become strong." The smaller stone (height, 3 feet 2 inches; width, 4 feet 5 inches; thickness, 1 foot) stands in a wall 34 feet away, and a third is said to have been removed during the last century. Mr. A. D. Passmore, of Swindon, was told on the spot that "when it heard the clock strike twelve the stone ran round the field." I am also indebted to Mr. Passmore for the information that the largest of the holes is twelve inches long by five wide.

Rudder's *Gloucestershire*, 1779, p. 244.

Thos. Rudge, *History of Gloucestershire* (1803) vol. i. 332.



## LONG BARROWS

*Arch.* XLII., 243. (Thurnam).

*Proc. C.N.F.C.*, v. 1872. 280. (Plate 2, reproduced here, is a photograph of the stone from the N.W.)

Wood-Martin, *Journal of the Royal Historical and Archæological Assoc. of Ireland.* 4 S. (April, 1887) VIII. (Reference only to superstition).

*County Folklore*, No. 1. Gloucestershire; by E. S. Hartland (Folklore Society, 1892. p. 39). Reference only.

A. T. Playne, *Minchinhampton and Avening*, 1915, p. 4.

## LOWER SWELL BARROW

Gloucestershire, 22 S.W. Parish of Lower Swell. 39\*.

Latitude  $51^{\circ} 55' 48''$ . Longitude  $1^{\circ} 45' 09''$ . Height above O.D. about 560 feet.

Situated a quarter of a mile W.N.W. of Swell Church. It is not marked on the Ordnance Map or mentioned by Witts. It is covered by a thin growth of firs with elders round the lower edge. It is about 135 feet long. A narrow trench has been cut across it near the eastern end, but no chamber appears to have been found (to judge by its present appearance), and otherwise it appears to be unmutilated. There are no signs of a surrounding wall. It is in danger of being eventually destroyed, as it is unprotected by any fence in a ploughed field; and ploughing appears to encroach yearly upon it. It is oriented W.N.W. and E.S.E. On the south side the scarp of the hillside is cut into, probably by the makers of the barrow, thus giving the appearance of a ditch on the north side. It is much higher at the east end. There are rabbit burrows (mostly abandoned) on the north side. Discovered and visited November 18th, 1920; and revisited October 21st, 1922.

## NEWCLOSE BARROW

Gloucestershire, 21 S.E. Parish of Eyford. 40\*.

Latitude  $51^{\circ} 55' 44''$ . Longitude  $1^{\circ} 47' 29''$ . Height above O.D. about 620 feet.

Situated about 200 yards S.E. of the Eyford Barrow (*W.* 14). It is about 150 feet long and very much higher at the N.E. end. It stands in a ploughed field and is ploughed over annually and consequently in great danger of total destruction. It appears to be perfect and never excavated. There are no depressions anywhere upon it. There are no signs of a ditch. Close to it on the south is a large Round Barrow.

Discovered and visited November 16th, 1920.

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### NORN'S TUMP

(generally described as "The Avening Barrow.")

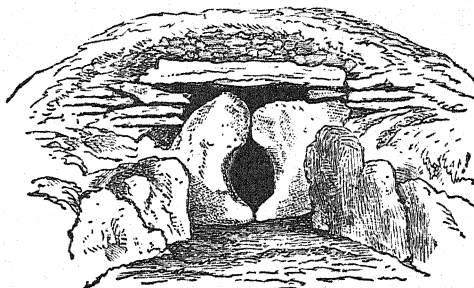
Gloucestershire, 58 N.W.      Parish of Avening.      11\*.

Latitude  $51^{\circ} 41' 02''$ .      Longitude  $2^{\circ} 09' 36''$ .      Height above O.D. about 520 feet.

This Long Barrow, illustrated by Thurnam in his classic paper and described in many text books, had been completely lost sight of and its present position was unknown. The mound is still recognisable as such, though both of its ends are under plough. The centre of the barrow is not however, cultivated, though being gradually encroached on, and is overgrown with long grass and brambles. Three pines stand on the highest point. The orientation is N.W.-S.E. It was excavated in 1806 by the Rev. W. H. Thornbury, Rector of Avening, when "three stone chambers were taken out and removed to a grove in the rectory garden where they are carefully preserved." In *Arch.* XVI is an account by Mr. Thornbury communicated to the Society of Antiquaries, November 20th, 1806. From this there appear to have been "two small chambers in one of which were found eight, and in the other three, skeletons." Plate 57 gives a view of the barrow from the S.W. before and after excavation; two chambers only are shown, and they are still preserved in the garden of the rectory, on a steep bank below the road from the *old* rectory to Woodhouse Farm (Sheet 57 N.E.) They are in no danger of destruction and are being carefully looked after by the present rector, the Rev. O. E. Hayden, who has given much assistance in rediscovering the site of the barrow. The length of the barrow is said to be 165 feet, greatest width 60 feet, and greatest height (at E. end), 6 feet.

Visited November 30th, 1920.

Thurnam puts the Avening barrow in his "Type II," those with chambers along the sides opening externally; and from his woodcut (reproduced above), it is seen that two of the uprights closing the



Entrance to one of the Chambers of  
NORN'S TUMP, AVENING.

## LONG BARROWS

entrance to the chamber were hollowed out so as to form a kind of port-hole to allow of entrance after the chamber was made and thus partially closed.

The name "Norn's Tump" was re-discovered locally by the Rev. R. Jowett Burton, of Chalford, to whom I am indebted for the information.

W. 2.

*Arch.* xvi., 362, Plate 57; xlii., 216, Fig. 11 (reproduced also in *Arch. Celt. et Gauloise*, by A. Bertrand, 2nd ed., 1889, Fig. 36).

Fosbroke, *Encyclop. Antiq.*, 1843, pp. 544, 547 (etching by T. Burden).

## NOTGROVE BARROW

Gloucestershire, 28 S.W.      Parish of Notgrove.      41\*.

Latitude  $51^{\circ} 53' 20''$ .      Longitude  $1^{\circ} 51' 40''$ .      Height above O.D. about 800 feet.

The following account is given by Wits, who excavated it:—"I examined it in April, 1881, previous to a visit of the Cotteswold Field Club. I found the barrow was 140 feet long, and that its greatest width was 78 feet. The entire crown of the tumulus had at some time been removed, exposing to view twenty large stones; these formed a series of chambers of the double-cruciform type, similar to those at Uley and Nympsfield. . . . The passage is five feet wide towards the south-east end, and four feet three inches wide towards the north-west, its entire length being twenty-seven feet. The first chamber on the west (A) measures eight feet four inches by six feet; the second (B) measures six feet four inches by six feet; chamber No. 3, (C on the plan) somewhat different in shape, measured six feet across in each direction; and chamber No. 4 (D on the plan) nine feet six inches by seven feet. The largest stone (1) stands five feet above the original surface of the ground, being three feet long and sixteen inches wide. Chamber No. 4 (D) had never been disturbed, though the other three had been cleared of their contents in past ages. Under a large flat stone I discovered portions of two human skeletons, lying in a contracted position; the skulls which were lying towards the west, were broken into very small pieces. With these human remains were found two teeth and the pelvis of some kind of ox (probably *Bos longifrons*), a dog's tooth, a very perfect leaf-shaped arrowhead of flint, a black oval bead or amulet, one



NOTGROVE, looking south-east



TINGLESTONE BARROW (p. 134)

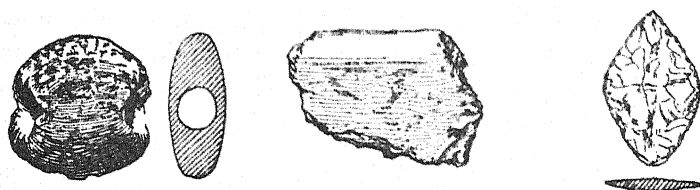




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and a half inches long, composed of Kimmeridge shale, having a hole pierced through the centre by a flint borer (this bead, though larger, resembles the one found in the Eyford Long Barrow, described in *British Barrows*, p. 519 [Fig. 162] ); lastly, thirty pieces of rough British pottery, half baked and belonging to the same vessel, one piece only

showing the form of the rim. The spaces between the upright stones in chamber No. 4 were filled up with well built dry walls of Stonesfield slate; the bottom of the chamber was



OBJECTS FOUND IN NOTGROVE LONG BARROW. 1:2

paved with small flat stones well fitted together and forming a level surface." A bead similar to that found here, but larger, was found in a barrow at Maiden's Grave Farm, Barton Fleming, Bridlington, Yorks., (E.R.) and was given to the British Museum by Canon Greenwell and Mr. Boynton in 1902.

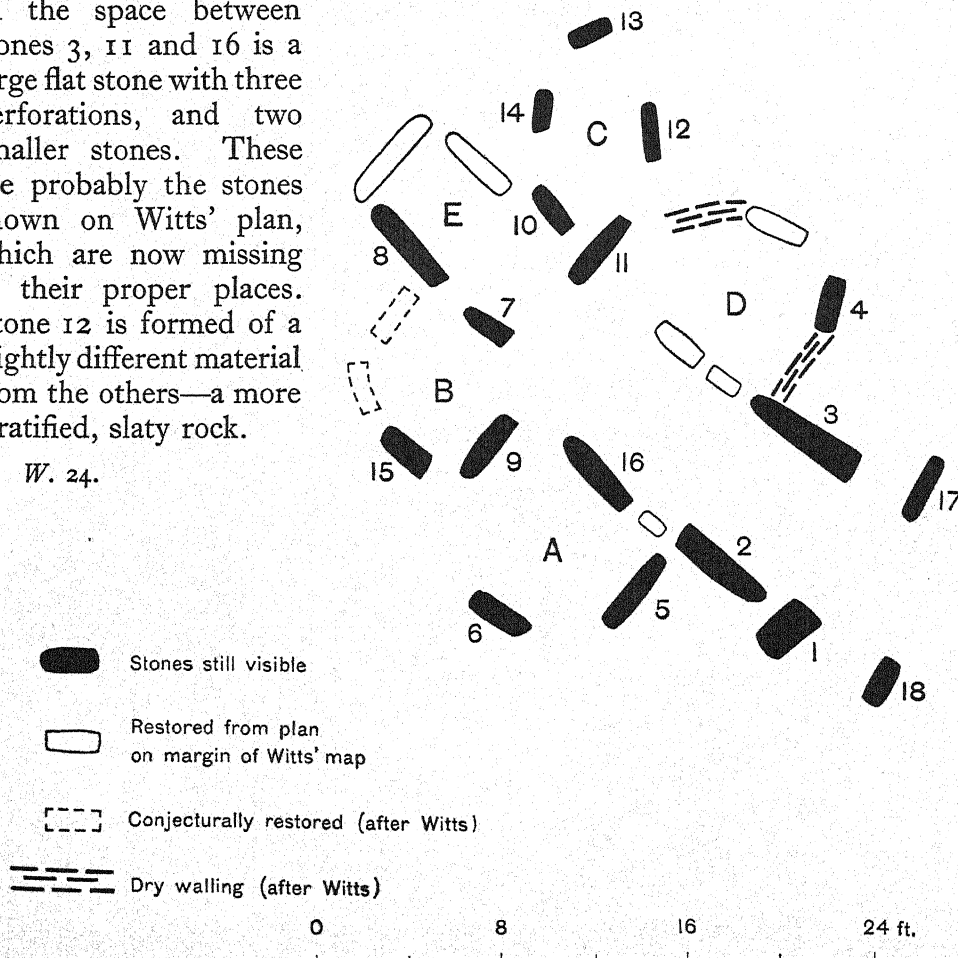
Visited November 22nd, 1920. The barrow formerly extended into a ploughed field on the N.W. where signs of the mound can still be traced. The large stones are still visible but the walling has completely vanished, owing doubtless to the fatal practice of leaving the excavations open and unprotected after they were concluded. The barrow stands in a piece of rough pasture, now waste land, and is overgrown with rank grass, but no trees. It would be well worth while to put it in order and place it under adequate protection. Some of the uprights are now leaning and will fall if not attended to, and some have already fallen or disappeared since the excavations were made. The general plan is easy to follow. The site is very accessible, being close to a good road (the main road from Bourton-on-the-Water to Cheltenham), and only a quarter of a mile from Notgrove station, G.W.R. (Kingham to Cheltenham line).

Revisited October 16th, 1922. A special plan, made since my first visit, was checked and added to; the result, which is not very satisfactory, is reproduced on next page, and is an attempt to combine a fresh survey with the data on Witts' plan. The stones of the northernmost chamber (C) appear to have been slightly displaced, or made to lean, since Witts' plan was made. One additional stone (18), continuing the S.W. "wall"

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of the central passage was discovered and has been added to the plan. The orientation of this "wall" of uprights is  $304^{\circ}$  M. The following heights were registered: Stone (1) 5 feet; (2) 4 feet; (3) 3 feet 8 inches; (16) 3 feet 6 inches; (17) 1 foot 6 inches. The S.E. edge of stone 16 is hollowed like those at Rodmarton and Belas Knap, whether naturally or artificially is uncertain; but in either case the setting of such a stone where it stands at the entrance to chamber (A) is probably intentional. In the space between stones 3, 11 and 16 is a large flat stone with three perforations, and two smaller stones. These are probably the stones shown on Witts' plan, which are now missing in their proper places. Stone 12 is formed of a slightly different material from the others—a more stratified, slaty rock.

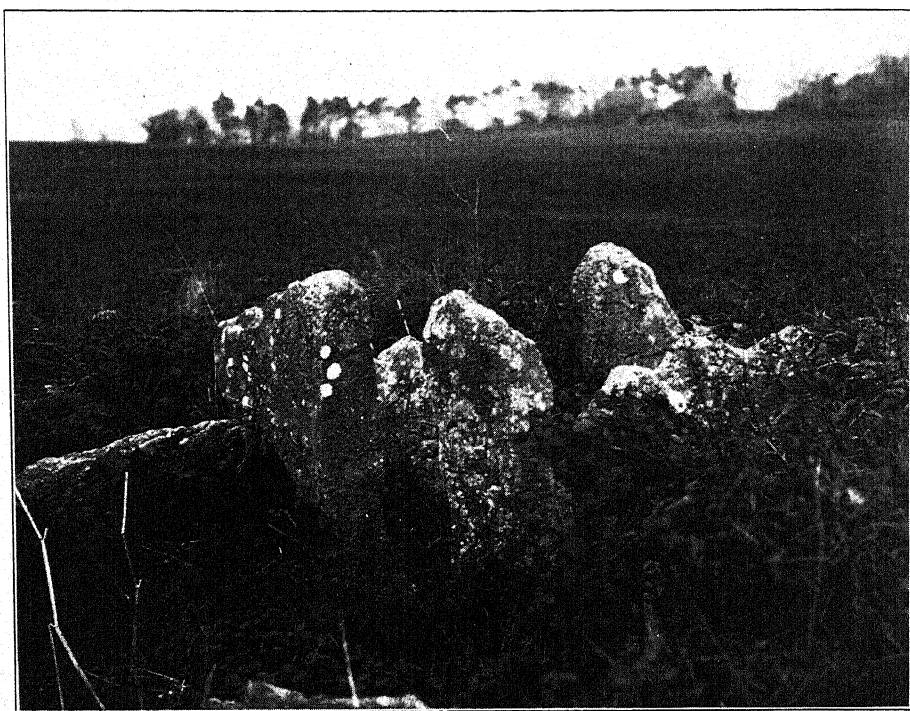
W. 24.



### NOTGROVE.

From an original survey by the author, with additions from Witts' plan on the margin of the map accompanying his *Handbook*. 1:100





NYMPSEFIELD BARROW



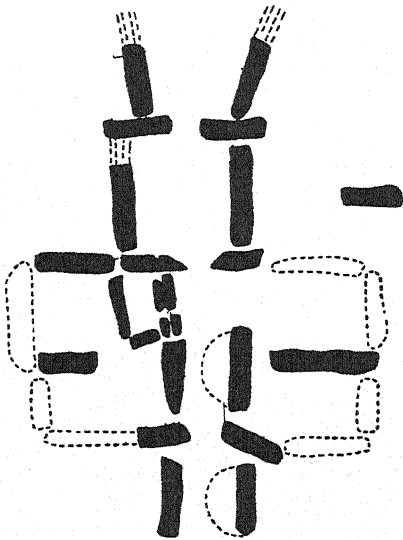
## GLOUCESTERSHIRE

### NYMPSFIELD BARROW

Gloucestershire, 49 S.W. Parish of Frocester. 42\*.

Latitude  $51^{\circ} 42' 35''$ . Longitude  $2^{\circ} 17' 54''$ . Height above O.D. about 750 feet.

The following account is given by Professor James Buckman in the *Proceedings of the Cotteswold Naturalists' Field Club* (Vol. III., 1865, pp. 184-8):—After describing its position on Crawley Hill about half a mile north of Hetty Pegler's Tump, which it closely resembles in plan, he proceeds: "The tumulus in both is of an ovoid form, and in each the broad end, where the chamber was situated, is to the east, and the small one to the west. . . . On exposing the chambers in the Nympsfield tumulus, it was at once seen that the upright stones marked more or less



NYMPSFIELD.

From a plan in C.N.F.C. Vol. III. 185.  
1:100

perfectly a central passage with one or perhaps a double set of cruciform or lateral chambers on either side; in the first of which, on the north side, was partitioned off a smaller chamber or cist, probably to receive some infantile remains, as such were found therein. In certain parts, the spaces between the uprights and the walls of the entrance were made up of dry walling, as shown on the plan." No traces of capstones were found. The stones used were the "lower freestones of the Great Oolite, which, in all probability were quarried for the purpose at a distance of about half-a-mile to the N.E. of the Nympsfield tumulus, at a place called Stone Hill. It would appear, that when the chambers were completed, and the bodies placed in them, a stone roof was placed over the whole, and

then that the loose stones, earth, etc., were piled upon and over the whole, so as to form the tumulus; this method necessitating the construction of a slight fosse, which is observable surrounding the tumulus, especially in that of Uley. In the Nympsfield one this fosse is not so observable, probably from the field having been for so long under the plough. Here, too, there was a deep depression in the top of the mound,



## LONG BARROWS

most likely left after the former opening. The contents of the Nympsfield chambers comprise (1) human bones, a few of which had been burnt ; (2) bones of inferior or domestic animals ; (3) a small fragment or two of pottery ; (4) a few flakes of flint.

(1) " As regards the human remains, it was deduced from 32 femora, which were counted by Dr. Bird, that the chambers, in the state in which the Club examined them, presented evidences of the remains of at least sixteen human bodies. These varied in size and in age from very old to young men and women, with a few remnants of the bones of children. .

(2) " The bones and teeth of inferior animals comprised not a few remnants of the ox, hog, dog and birds. . . .

(3) " The small fragment of pottery is of the usual brownish or black unbaked clay of the period. This fragment is scored with the peculiar impressed marks so common in ancient British *fictilia*." . . . A very bad drawing is given of this fragment on p. 187, from which it appears possible that it was part of the upper part of a bowl ornamented with impressed thongmarks—the so-called " maggot " decoration.

(4) Professor Buckman's remarks on the flints are not worth quoting. From the illustrations on p. 188 they appear to have been simply flakes.

The following is Dr. Thurnam's report on the human bones, which (in *Mem. Anthr. Soc.*, Vol. I., 1863-4, p. 131, note) he says " have kindly been contributed to my collection." " The osseous remains from the chambered tumulus at Nympsfield consist of one skull, one broken calvarium, and fragments of at least ten other crania.

" No. 1, the large and finely developed skull of a man of middle age. Its capacity is represented by 88 ounces of white sand and the contained brain must have weighed about 58 ounces avoirdupois. The type is dolichocephalic, with a full and prominent occiput. The only exception as to equable development depends on the presence of slight parieto-occipital flatness. The frontal region is rather narrow, but is moderately elevated and well arched where it joins the parietals. The parietal tubers are not prominent. The superciliaries are large and form a central overhanging boss. The nasals are broken off at the roots. The superior maxillaries are short, especially the alveolar portions ; as in other skulls from the chambered tumuli of Uley and West Kennet. Slight prognathism is exhibited in the prominence of the intermaxillaries. A greater number of the teeth, *viz.*, two or three incisors and two or three

## GLOUCESTERSHIRE

molars, have been lost during life than in almost any other British skull I have examined. One molar and two premolars are in place ; they are very much worn down and have the dentine hollowed out. There is no lower jaw among the fragments which can be confidently attributed to this skull.

" No. 2. A broken calvarium of still more decidedly dolicocephalic character than the skull No. 1. In this instance likewise, the supra-occipital region is full and prominent. Behind the coronal suture is a marked depression, which extends down the sides of the skull, and suggests the idea of having been produced by the long-continued use of a constricting bandage in early life. This peculiarity of form is one occasionally observed in ancient British skulls, and especially those from the north of Wiltshire and Gloucestershire, the country of the Dobuni, as seen in many crania in any collection.

" Nos. 3, 4, and 5. Frontal bones ; all apparently of male skulls. They are characterised by their generally low, narrow and receding form ; as is likewise the frontal bone in the calvarium No. 2. This form prevails especially in skulls from the chambered Long Barrows of Wilts., Gloucester and Somerset. (See the description of the skull from Uley in *Crania Britannica*, Plate 5).

" No. 6. Frontal and facial bones and lower jaws (all imperfect) of a female, probably of less than thirty years. The form is in no respect peculiar, except that the lower jaw is square and angular. The teeth are considerably eroded.

" No. 7. Fragments of the frontal and facial bones of a male of about forty years.

" No. 8. Upper maxillaries of, perhaps, a female, of about sixty years.

" No. 9. Left upper maxillary of a male of about forty years.

" No. 10. Left upper maxillary of a young adult, with two molar teeth, showing incipient attrition on the inner edges.

" No. 11. Part of inferior maxillary of an infant, with two deciduous teeth in place.

" No. 12. Fragment of lower jaw of an aged female, completely edentulous.

" The fragments of two lower jaws of males, marked A and B, show

## LONG BARROWS

in a high degree the broad and angular form of the ascending ramus which is so marked a feature in the adult male British cranium.

"There are several fragments of burnt human bones, the largest being part of the occiput of a child. They are very imperfectly burned, many of them merely charred, and are very different from the cinders of bone found when unambiguous cremation has been practised. Devizes, September, 1862."

Visited December 1st, 1920. The barrow can never have been appreciably larger than it is now, as the western edge stands at the extreme edge of the escarpment, which is almost precipitous here. No signs of a ditch were observed either here or at Uley. Ploughing is in progress over part of the mound, up to the edge of a small circle on the 6 in. map, indicating a wooden fence which formerly enclosed the area of the chambers. This fence is now represented only by the fragments of four rotten posts. The stones themselves are becoming overgrown with brambles and moss and are in a precarious condition. The whole monument needs protection and immediate attention. It is still well preserved and worth making permanently secure.

Mr. A. E. W. Paine, of Cheltenham, has in his collection from this barrow two anchylosed human vertebræ, four teeth of *Bos primigenius*, and one tooth of a horse.

W. 25.

*Journal of the Anthropological Society*, Vol. III., 1865, pp. LXVI., LXVIII.

*Proc. C.N.F.C.*, III., 184-190. (Paper read in 1863, with an account of the excavations and plan).

*Trans. B. and G.A.S.*, v. 95.

*Gent's Mag.*, 1862, Part II., p. 529.

Plan given also on the margin of Writts' Map.

## PINKWELL BARROW

Gloucestershire, 43 N.E.      Parish of Chedworth.      43\*.

Latitude  $51^{\circ} 47' 37''$ .      Longitude  $1^{\circ} 56' 04''$ .      Height above O.D. about 690 feet.

The following is an account of the excavation of this barrow by Akerman in 1856 given in *Proc. Soc. Ant.*, IV, 1859, pp. 16 and 17:—

"My attention having been directed to a barrow of this description [*i.e.*, long], situated in a field near the farmstead of Pinkwell, a little to the west of the village of Chedworth, in Gloucestershire, I applied to the

## GLOUCESTERSHIRE

Reverend A. Gibson, the trustee for the land on which it stands, and Mr. Townsend, the occupier, for permission to explore it, which was very promptly and kindly granted.

"This tumulus has always been known as 'Long Barrow,' and the field in which it is situated as 'Long Barrow Field,' but this designation was probably given to it at a comparatively recent period, when the Chedworth district of the extensive Cotswold range was first enclosed. I learned that the southern end of the barrow had been disturbed about twenty years since for the purpose of obtaining stone, when three human skeletons were found lying side by side, but unaccompanied by relics of any description. The teeth were remarkably perfect. This rather invited than discouraged further investigation, for although the centre of the mound appeared to have been disturbed on its surface, I was led to believe that this was attributable to the labourers in search of stone, and that it had never been ransacked by the antiquary or the treasure-seeker.

"We commenced excavations on the eastern side of the south end of the mound, which appeared to be intact, and on reaching the interior it became evident that the floor of the barrow had been excavated to a depth of two feet below the natural surface of the soil. The sides were built up with the smaller stones of the district, in the manner of a 'dry wall,' but nearer the centre the stones were of larger size, and all were placed with great apparent care, plainly showing that this end of the barrow had not been disturbed since its first formation.

"After a careful search for some hours, and the removal of a vast number of stones, we were satisfied that there had been no deposit of any kind in this portion of the barrow, and we proceeded to remove the stones at the opposite end, where the skeletons already mentioned had been found. As the work proceeded it became obvious that the stones here were not placed with care; in fact that they had been thrown together without order or arrangement, and that this barrow had been assailed at some distant period. Nothing but the hope that the mound had been imperfectly explored would have tempted further search, and this at length ended in the finding of the metal tag of a lace and a minute fragment of pottery. By the dark brown glaze upon the latter, it is probably not earlier than the end of the sixteenth or beginning of the seventeenth century, and to this period I would refer the first assault of the barrow at Pinkwell."

## LONG BARROWS

The barrow is not marked on Witts' map or included in his list, though it appears on the Ordnance Map. I visited it on December 22nd, 1920. It lies in a ploughed field and is wholly under plough, so that it has now spread. It is about 180 feet long and is higher and wider at the S.E. end. A depression can be seen a little east of the centre, marking doubtless the site of Akerman's excavations. The genuinely local character of the name "Long Barrow" is confirmed by the fact that an old inhabitant—Frederick Norman, of Chedworth—used it in describing the barrow to me. It is oriented N.W.—S.E.

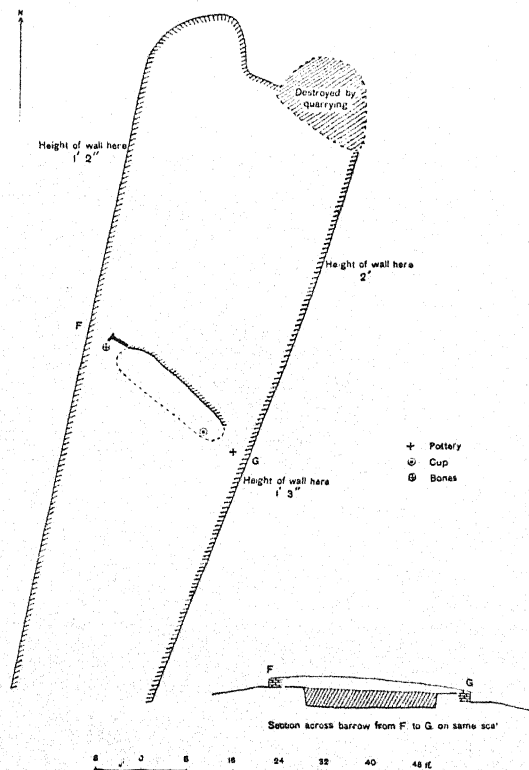
### POLE'S WOOD EAST

Gloucestershire, 22 S.W. Parish of Upper Swell. 44\*.

Latitude  $51^{\circ} 56' 12''$ . Longitude  $1^{\circ} 45' 59''$ . Height above O.D. about 650 feet.

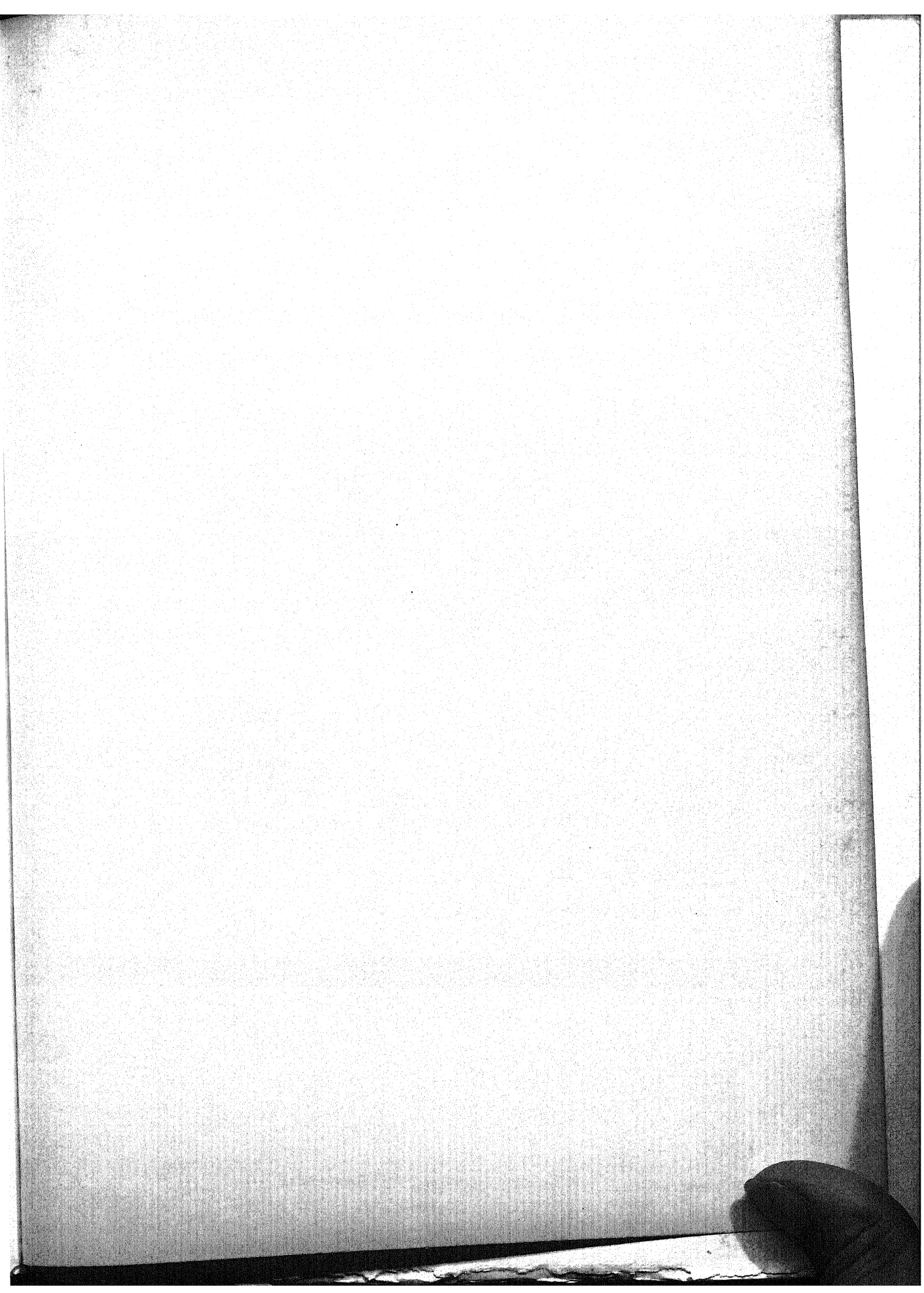
The barrow is situated at the east end of Pole's Plantation, about 650 yards S.W. of Upper Swell Church. It is thinly planted with beeches, the rest of the wood consisting mainly of firs. The remains of a modern wall surround it on four sides. In the highest part is a large crater-like depression, on the western side of which are the remains of dry walling. The following is Witts' summary of the excavations made in it by Canon Greenwell :—

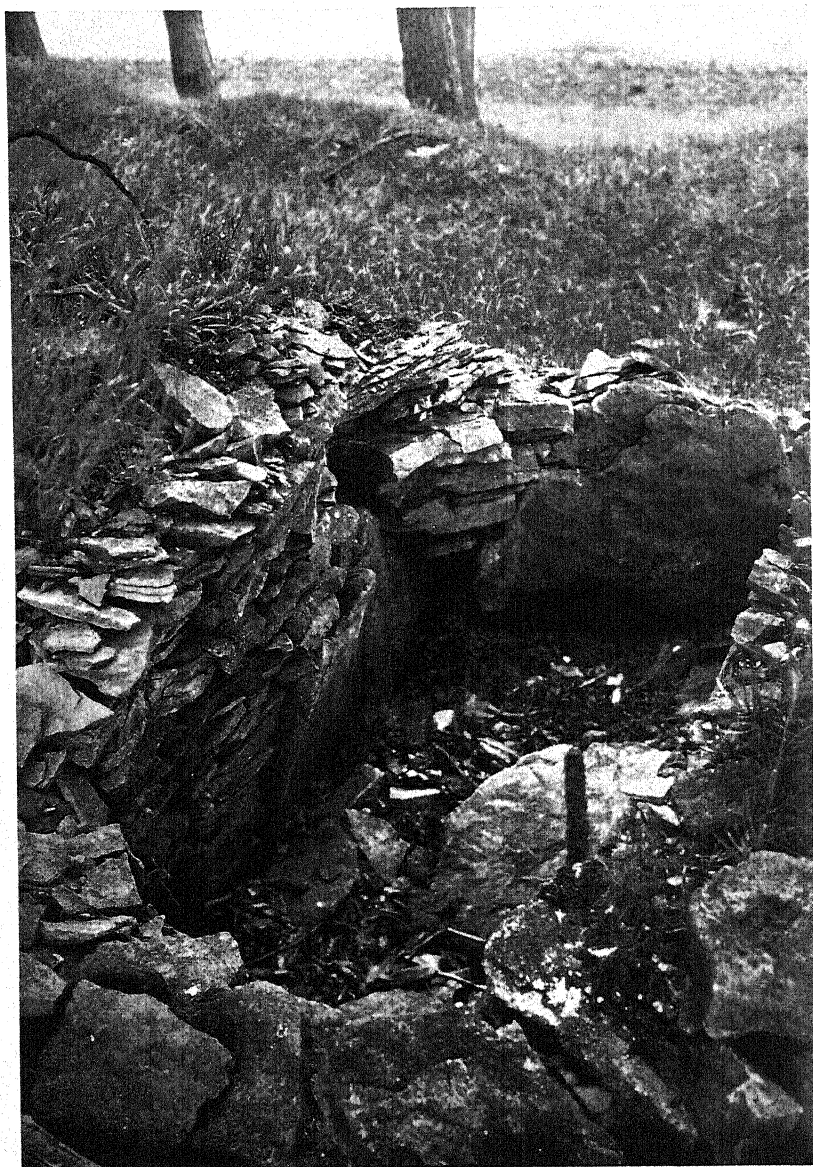
"The extreme length was 120 feet and extreme width 40 feet; its direction was N.N.E. and S.S.W., its horned end being at the N.N.E. end; its greatest height was 5 feet. It was surrounded by a wall which measured 4 feet in height at the north end. The principal



POLE'S WOOD [EAST]  
Surveyed by Sir Henry Dryden,  
December 31st, 1875.  
1:400







POLE'S WOOD SOUTH

Chamber at east end of Long Barrow, looking south.

## GLOUCESTERSHIRE

interment was in a trench about 28 feet long, 6 feet 4 inches wide and 2 feet deep, and this was sunk below the original surface of the ground, similar to the trench described under the West Tump [*W.* 35; No. 52 in this book]. In this trench-chamber were found nineteen skeletons, also bones of the roe deer, red deer, ox, wild boar, goat, pig, etc., bone implements, one vessel of coarse pottery, and a considerable number of worked flints. Three Saxon skeletons were found near the surface of the barrow."

Visited November 18th, 1920, and again October 18th, 1922.

*W.* 31.

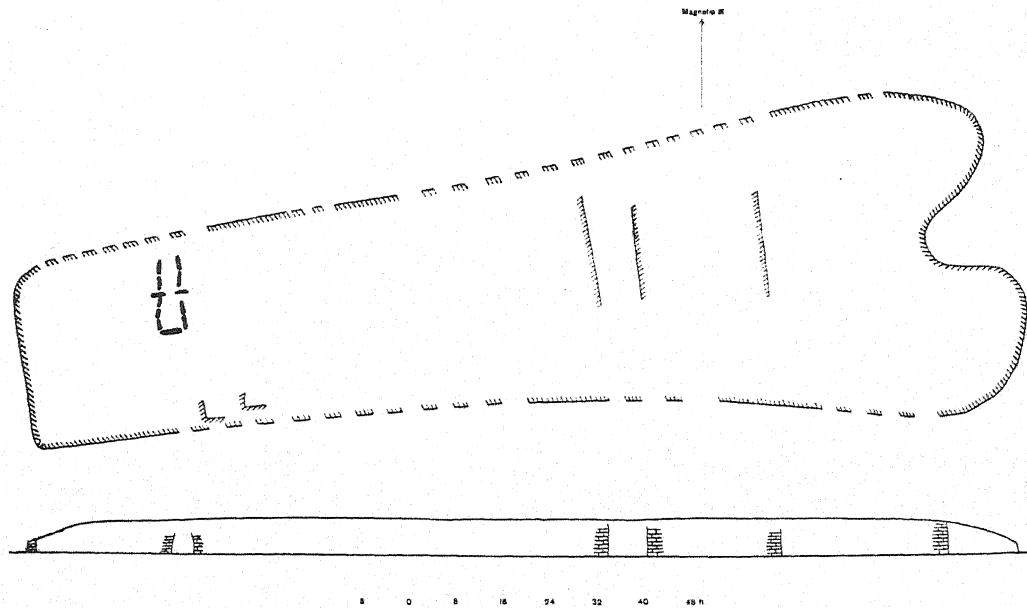
*J.A.I.* v. 120.

*Brit. Bars.*, p. 524. (Greenwell's No. 232. Plan made by Sir Henry Dryden, but not reproduced by G.)

## POLE'S WOOD SOUTH

Gloucestershire, 22 S.W. Parish of Upper Swell. 45\*.

Latitude 51° 56' 06". Longitude 1° 45' 23". Height above O.D. about 710 feet.



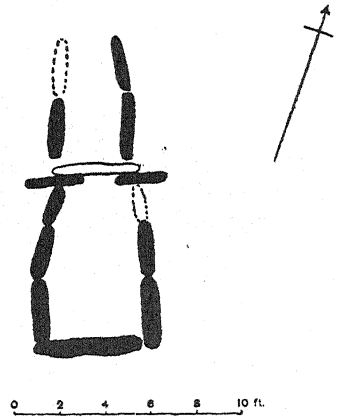
POLE'S WOOD [SOUTH]

Surveyed by Sir Henry Dryden, October 12th, 1874.

1:400

## LONG BARROWS

As a result of the condition in which this barrow was left after "excavation" there is now nothing left of it visible except the chamber at the west end on the north side of the barrow. The surrounding walls and the horned ends have crumbled into complete decay. The chamber itself, however, is fairly well preserved and is surrounded by a stout wooden fence. It is 6 feet 7 inches long (distance between inner faces of stones 1 and 5), 3 feet 2 inches wide (ditto, stones 3 and 7), and 2 feet 5 inches deep. The dimensions of the stones are as follows: No. 1 being the one closing the north end; No. 5 that closing the south end; Nos. 2, 3 and 4 being on the west side; No. 2 nearest to No. 1; Nos. 7 and 6 being on the east side, No. 6 nearest to 5.



PLAN OF CHAMBER.  
After Sir Henry Dryden. 1:100

Stone		Height		Thickness
1	..	1 ft. 4 ins.	..	5 ins.
2	..	1 ft. 2 ins.	..	4 ins.
3	..	2 ft. 1 in.	..	6 ins.
4	..	2 ft. 5 ins.	..	8 ins. to 10 ins.
5	..	2 ft. 5 ins.	..	12 ins.
6	..	1 ft. 9 ins.	..	6 ins.
7	..	1 ft. 10 ins.	..	10 ins.

Digging appears to have begun on the south side of the chamber and advanced northwards (traces of modern excavations being obvious at the south end of the chamber). The entrance passage leading to the chamber, as shown on the plan, was to the north of stone 1. No signs of it are now visible. On the east side between stones 1 and 7, is a piece of dry walling. The stones overlap each other inwards, and once were continued to form a corbelled roof. They also partly overlap stone 7. The mound is planted with beech and fir trees; the rest of the field in which it stands is under permanent grass. Measures to protect the chamber and open up the passage should be taken before it is too late.

The following is Witts' account:—

"Its length was 173 feet, its greatest width 57 feet and greatest

## GLOUCESTERSHIRE

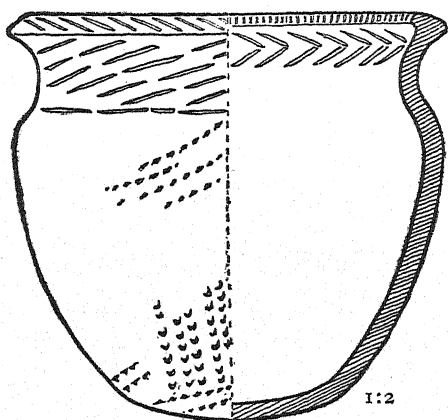
height, 8 feet 6 inches ; its direction was E. by N. and W. by S., the highest portion lying towards the east. Like the others in this neighbourhood it is composed of oolitic rubble and slabs, and is surrounded by a wall, which at the east end reached to a height of 5 feet, where it assumed the 'horned' shape. Only one chamber was found in the whole of this mound ; this was 24 feet from the W. end, and on the N. side of the barrow ; it had a passage leading to it similar to the last [*W.* 29. Cow Common Barrow, No. 21 in this book]. The chamber was 7 feet long, 4 feet wide and 3 feet 8 inches high. At least nine skeletons were found here, together with bones of the goat or sheep, ox, pig, and two pieces of pottery. In the passage were found three other skeletons. Near the surface of the barrow three bodies were discovered, evidently Saxons, as proved by the articles found with them, *viz.*, two bronze buckles, an iron knife, and an amber bead."

Referring to the "nine or ten" skeletons found in the chamber, Rolleston says [*J.A.I.*, 1876] : "The almost perfect state in which one skeleton found in the [entrance] passage [to this chamber] was recovered makes the rifling and destruction of the others still more regrettable." Further on he adds "No record has been recovered by us, as to how the nine bodies or more which the chamber contained had been packed away in its area of 7 feet by 4 feet." It is clear that the fragmentary condition of the bones in the chamber was due, not to previous disturbance, but to imperfect burial, or rather, to re-burial after storage elsewhere; and the presence of a perfect skeleton in the entrance passage suggests the immolation of a victim. The possibility of this practice being in vogue was suggested by the burials near the Portal at Belas Knap. The passage skeleton in this barrow was that of a man about 30 years ; height about 5 feet 5 inches ; cephalic index, 76. "With his bones came also the jaw of a young pig, just as was the case with the bones from the chamber in Swell 1 [Cow Common, my No. 21] ; as also some bones of a sheep or goat."

An interesting vessel was found at the east end of the barrow. It is now in the British Museum, and seems to be intermediate in type between the round-bottomed neolithic bowls and food vessels. Canon Greenwell thinks that it "possibly at one time accompanied a body now totally gone to decay. It was found just over the facing of the north 'horn,' near to its eastern extremity, and not much below the present surface of the mound. It is somewhat of the drinking cup type [this



## LONG BARROWS



is hardly correct], 4 inches high,  $4\frac{3}{4}$  inches wide at the mouth, and  $2\frac{1}{4}$  inches at the bottom, and ornamented over the whole surface with lines forming no distinct pattern. On the upper part of the vessel these have been made with a sharp-pointed instrument, and on the remainder of it by impressions of a notched strip of wood or bone." For a general account of this type of pottery, the reader should consult Mr. Reginald Smith's article in *Archæologia*

LXII. on "The Development of Neolithic Pottery."

Visited November 18th, 1920.

W. 30.

*J.A.I.* v. 1876., pp. 165-171. (Rolleston's Swell VII). Plan.

*Brit. Bars.*, p. 521-524. (Greenwell's No. 231).

*Arch.*, LXII, 1910, 347, Fig. 14. (Reproduced above, by kind permission of Mr. R. A. Smith, F.S.A., and the Society of Antiquaries.)

See also p. 16 of this book.

## POLE'S WOOD WEST

Gloucestershire, 22 S.W. Parish of Upper Swell. 45a\*.

Latitude  $51^{\circ} 56' 13''$ . Longitude  $1^{\circ} 45' 30''$ . Height above O.D. 700 feet.

The remains of this barrow were discovered accidentally on Oct. 17th, 1922. It lies in the field adjoining Pole's Plantation on the west, and is 730 feet N.W. of the Pole's Wood South Long Barrow (No. 45) and 1820 feet west of the Pole's Wood East Long Barrow (No. 44). Its length by tape is 118 feet, and its distance from the western (north and south) wall of Pole's Plantation, 312 feet, measured along the north wall of the field. Its orientation is N.N.W. and S.S.E. The elevation is low and it has certainly been dug into in places. There are several bare stoney patches on its surface, and many big (but hardly "megalithic") stones lying about over its southern end. It probably conceals a good deal of unrifled material. The field in which it lies is under permanent

## GLOUCESTERSHIRE

grass. This discovery confirms the remarkable concentration already referred to, and makes a total of four Long Barrows within a space of 1,000 yards square. If, as is probable, the Whittlestone and the "tump" 700 yards to the west of it are both remains of Long Barrows, this number would be raised to six.

### QUERNS BARROW

Gloucestershire, 51 S.W. Parish of Cirencester. 46\*.

Latitude  $51^{\circ} 42' 44''$ . Longitude  $1^{\circ} 58' 19''$ . Height above O.D. about 400 feet.

Situated in a field called "The Querns"\* N.E. of the "Bull-ring" and S.W. of the station. About 180 feet long. Opened "about 30 years ago by Messrs. Newmarch and Buckman, and mentioned by them in their *Remains of Roman Art in Cirencester*. . . . Several skeletons were found arranged E. and W., but it seems they were in a very fragmentary state, none of them being in a condition to be capable of measurement. The explorations consisted simply of two transverse cuts through the mound."

Visited December 24th, 1920. The steepest slope is on the N. side of the barrow, which is widest at the east end and highest *now* at the west end. There are no signs of any excavations, which must have been filled in, a most unusual procedure in those days.

W. 8.

Buckman, *Corinium*, p. 12.

\*In the year 1292 the name of this piece of ground was spelt CRONDLES or CRONNES (*Trans. B. and G.A.S.* ix. 1884-5, p. 321). The first spelling clearly goes back to O.E. Crundel. The second part of the word means a pit or quarry, and is still used in Hampshire to describe old chalk-pits ('dells'). The first part seems connected with 'crown.' May the whole word have meant originally a quarry from which *quern*-stones were got? This meaning would of course be inapplicable to a chalk district, but the original meaning might have become lost there. The change from *cron* to *quern* undoubtedly took place at Cirencester, whether my suggested explanation is correct or not. I do not know whether the oolite here was used for, or suitable for, grinding-stones, or whether there is any record of their manufacture here. The shape of the Romano-British circular quern is strongly suggestive of a crown.

### RANDWICK BARROW

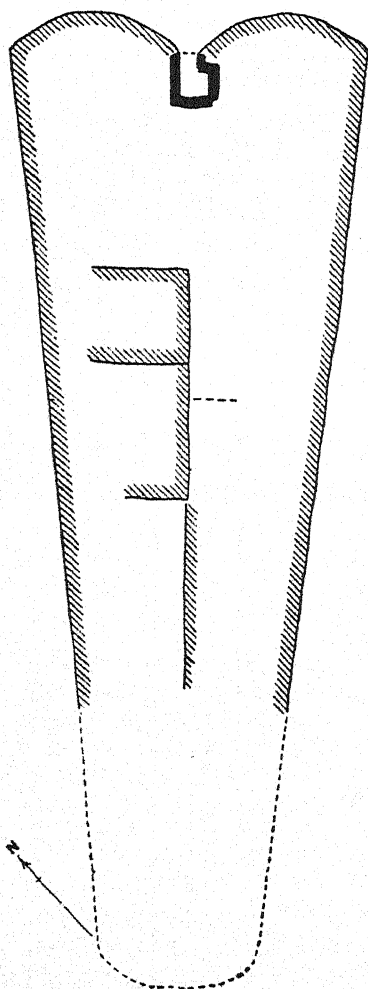
Gloucestershire, 41 S.W. Parish of Randwick. 47\*.

Latitude  $51^{\circ} 45' 34''$ . Longitude  $2^{\circ} 15' 16''$ . Height above O.D. 700 feet.

This barrow was excavated by Witts himself, and the following is

## LONG BARROWS

his account :—" This barrow is situated on the top of Randwick Hill, within the entrenchments of an ancient camp. The direction of the mound is E.N.E. and W.S.W., the highest portion being towards the E.N.E. The west end has been destroyed by quarrying operations, leaving the present mound only 113 feet in length. The original barrow (comparing



RANDWICK.

After Wits, C.N.F.C.,  
vol. VIII. 1883-4. 1:400

it with others in the neighbourhood) was probably 185 [feet] in length. The two external walls were exposed to view in the quarry at the west end. In July 1883, Mr. Witchell and myself directed the labourers to excavate along the outside of the southern wall, commencing at the exposed point in the quarry. After driving a trench about 8 feet, we came upon several skeletons laid close to the external wall; these skeletons, though in rather a composed mass [*sic*], had evidently been buried in the usual sitting posture—this was proved by the skulls and knee-pans [*patellae*] being found together, and the heel bones and heads of the femurs. An examination of the bones found at this point showed that there were nine femurs and only portions of four skulls. . . . With the human bones were a few of the lower creatures, including a peculiar jaw. . . . The southern wall proved to be very much perished, and it was only occasionally that its line could be traced. The northern wall was traced for some distance from the western quarry, and, as far as the examination continued, the wall was intact. On a [later] day Mr. Witchell exposed to view the central line of the barrow; this consisted of a roughly built wall, in some places 10 to 12 feet in height. For the first 30 feet from the west end this wall faced towards the north; it then came to a transverse wall; for the next 40 feet it faced the south; there

were also four transverse walls, two of which seemed to form an enormous buttress about 15 feet wide. I quite agree with the late Professor Rolleston,

## GLOUCESTERSHIRE

who, in describing similar walls in one of the Swell barrows, attributes them solely to the neolithic labourer who constructed the barrow, built up for his own convenience, and that they are very misleading to modern archæologists, having no connection whatever with the chambers. But from the excellent manner in which the walls at Randwick have been exposed, they prove very valuable in showing the interior construction of a Long Barrow, and I feel sure there is no other example in the county so well calculated to throw light on this point. On August 9th we directed the men to excavate at the south-east end, to try and find the external wall at that point; but it may surprise those who have not personally conducted the exploration of a Long Barrow to hear that we excavated a trench three feet wide right through the wall without seeing it! I have seen this done so often, though under the keen eye of Professor Rolleston, that it was no surprise to me. After vainly endeavouring to find this wall for several hours. . . . we attacked the central portion of the E.N.E. end, and were soon rewarded. After excavating to a depth of three feet we noticed the top of a large stone; coming to the conclusion that this was the main entrance, we continued at this spot in [*sic*] August 10th. Following the line of the large stone (placed on end) discovered the previous night, we soon found that we were excavating in the interior of the principal chamber, placed exactly in the centre of the east end of the barrow (E.N.E.), that, in fact, we were inside the boundary wall, which we had hitherto failed to discover at this point. The chamber consisted of five upright stones (as the plan will show):—

No. 1	being	5 ft. 6 in.	long	3 ft. 8 in.	high,	and	9 in.	thick	} [These measurements do not agree with those on the plan in the black note-book at Cheltenham, reproduced below.]
2	„	5 ft.	„	2 ft.	„	„	10 in.	„	
3	„	4 ft.	„	3 ft. 6 in.	„	„	9 in.	„	
4	„	2 ft. 9 in.	„	4 ft.	„	„	10 in.	„	
5	„	2 ft. 3 in.	„	2 ft. 9 in.	„	„	4 in.	„	

“ The first thing of interest we found in this chamber, about one foot from the surface, was a piece of Roman pottery, with the mark of the potter’s wheel and a well formed rim. Shortly afterwards we found a second piece of Roman pottery. Continuing our excavation in the chamber, which was completely filled with oolitic rubble, we found, two feet from the surface, half of a Roman horseshoe,\* and shortly afterwards we came upon a few scattered human bones. On nearing the bottom of the chamber, we found several pieces of very old British pottery, without

\* A pencil drawing of this is given in the black note-book at Cheltenham.

## LONG BARROWS

the mark of the potter's wheel, three flint flakes, and an extraordinarily confused mass of human bones, broken up into very small pieces, and utterly defying the greatest expert in giving any opinion as to the direction in which the skeletons were originally laid. Possibly the most remarkable incident connected with this find was that there were no femurs at all,

and only a very few small portions of skull. With the human bones were a few of the lower creatures, including birds. The contents of the chamber were minutely examined, in the hope of finding the usual flint arrowhead, or heads, but without success. . . .

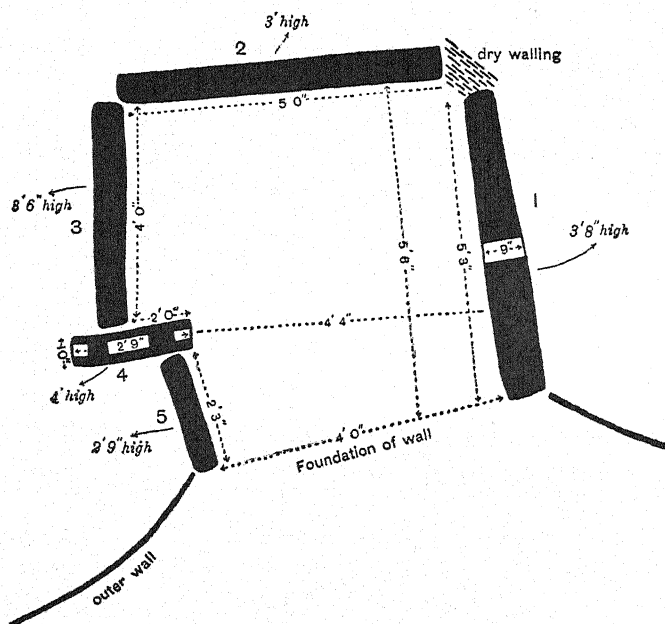


Diagram (not to any scale) of Chamber at east end of Randwick; copied from Witts' notebook, Cheltenham Museum.

“Having completed our examination of the chamber, and being of course, convinced that we were inside the surrounding walls, we next commenced a vigorous attack to bring them to light, nor were we un-

successful. At a point 20 feet south of the main chamber we found the wall very irregular and difficult to recognise. . . . but, tracing out the line of our supposed wall on its proper curve to the main chamber, we were at once rewarded by finding it intact, leading in a gentle curve right up to the entrance stones. Alas! we had already passed through this wall in two places without seeing it, but moving a few stones in the exact line which our friend, 20 feet south, pointed to us, revealed the wall in good preservation.

“Reverting to the skeletons we found near the exterior wall at the S.W. corner, some have supposed that they were subsequent interments of a much later date, but, looking to the decided dolichocephalic character of the skulls, and the sitting posture in which the skeletons were placed,



## GLOUCESTERSHIRE

I am inclined to agree with Professor Rolleston and Canon Greenwell that it was the custom to bury slaves and retainers as near as possible to . . . their chiefs, and if they were unable to get leave to place them in the barrow, they placed them as near as possible to the external wall, just as we found them. No less than twelve skeletons were found by me in this position at the West Tump Barrow (Cranham). Five flint flakes (rather large ones) with several pieces of old British pottery, were found in the centre line of the barrow, about 12 feet from the western quarry, on the original surface of the ground, and with them many burnt stones. I should mention that many of the bones in the chamber were much burnt, some of them being quite black, and many stones showed signs of fire, though many were unburnt. No signs of the stain of manganese were found. . . .

“By direction of the owner, Mrs. Barrow (an odd coincidence) the walls and chambers have been covered up to protect them from damage.”

Visited December 7th, 1920. The barrow stands between two quarries, that on the N.E. not being marked on the map (1903 ed.). It has been truncated at both ends by quarrying, but probably the east end is as perfect as when excavated by Witts, the truncation being more apparent than real. There are evident signs of Witts' excavations at the N.E. end ; but owing to the care of the owner in insisting on the covering in of the excavated area, we may be sure that the walling and chamber are still intact, though invisible. No large stones are visible anywhere. The west end is being rapidly denuded by the weather, and the *débris* of the mound is falling in a cascade of talus into the quarry beneath.

Mr. A. E. W. Paine has in his possession a flake from this barrow, from the collection of the late C. A. Witchell, labelled “Found by me in the centre of the Randwick tumulus with remains of fingered pottery and ashes, the dry walls on either side being marked by fire.—C.A.W.”

*W.* 26.

*Proc. C.N.F.C.*, VIII., 1883, 156–160. (Plate). Quoted at length above.

## RODMARTON

See WINDMILL TUMP, p. 142.

## SHURDINGTON

See CRIPPETS BARROW, p. 93.

## LONG BARROWS

### THROUGHAM BARROW

Gloucestershire, 42 S.W. Parish of Bisley-with-Lypiatt. 48\*.

Latitude  $51^{\circ} 45' 55''$ . Longitude  $2^{\circ} 07' 46''$ . Height above O.D. about 820 feet.

Length 100 feet ; greatest width, 50 feet ; height, 5 feet ; oriented E. and W. "The mound was cut in two about 50 years ago to make room for a cottage and some pigstyes ; the latter now occupy the centre of the barrow ! During the excavation one skeleton was found."

Visited December 6th, 1920. There is little to add to the above description. There are very distinct traces of the mound on the N. side. The mound is now the property of the occupants of the cottage who recently bought it.

W. 32.

### TINGLESTONE BARROW

(often described as the "Gatcombe Barrow")

Gloucestershire, 50 S.W. Parish of Avening. 49\*.

Latitude  $51^{\circ} 41' 21''$ . Longitude  $2^{\circ} 10' 12''$ . Height above O.D. about 520 feet.

Length, 130 feet ; width, 70 feet ; height 6 feet ; highest at N. end. "On the broadest portion of the mound stands a large stone 6 feet in height, which bears the name of the "Tingle Stone" (quoting from *Proc. C.N.F.C.*, v., 280).

Visited November 30th, 1920. The Tingle Stone itself is a slab of oolite very like the Long Stone. It stands on the N. end of the barrow, which is oriented N. and S. The North end is the highest and widest. There are a few signs of disturbance on the west or lower side of the barrow, as if the material of the mound had been carried away at some distant date ; otherwise the barrow is unusually well preserved and would probably repay excavation. It stands in a ploughed field and is being gradually encroached upon by annual ploughing and so in danger of eventual destruction. It is planted with about 30 young beeches. It belongs to Colonel Ricardo of Gatcombe Park. (*See plate, p. 116.*)

## GLOUCESTERSHIRE

Some flints "from Tinglestone," together with a distant photograph (here reproduced) of it are exhibited in the Gloucester Museum.

*W.* 33.

*Proc. C.N.F.C.*, v. 280. (Referred to only).

Bigland's *Gloucestershire*, 1791, p. 92.

Stevens, *Flint Chips*, p. 494.

## THE TOOTS

Gloucestershire, 49 N.W. Parish of King's Stanley. 50\*.

Latitude  $51^{\circ} 43' 33''$ . Longitude  $2^{\circ} 15' 01''$ . Height above O.D. 689 feet.

"This barrow is generally known as 'The Toots' and is situated high up on Selsley Hill, two miles S.W. of Stroud. Its length is 210 feet; its greatest width, 90 feet, and height, 11 feet; its direction is E.N.E.-W.S.W., the highest part lying towards the E.N.E. From these dimensions it will be seen that this is one of the largest long barrows in Gloucestershire. It has been opened in three places, but unfortunately, no record has been preserved of the results of these excavations."

Visited December 1st, 1920. It lies on an open grass common which appears never to have been under plough. It is therefore interesting to note that there are not the faintest external indications of a ditch on either side of the barrow, and it appears practically certain that such never existed. It has been dug over in many places, both in the middle and at the east end. The excavation across the middle is so large as to cause it to appear to be *two* mounds; this gave rise to the name "Toots," the plural of Toot, meaning a hill that was used as a look-out post, or thought in later times to have been so used. As this word is now obsolete it seems that this excavation must have taken place a long time ago. It is in no immediate danger of destruction. It stands on the edge of the escarpment, with a magnificent view across the Vale of Gloucester and the Severn Estuary.

In the temporary museum formed at Stroud during the meeting there of the B. and G.A.S. in 1880 there were exhibited by the Rev. A. Page, of Selsley "two hollowed stones, from a burying place on Selsley Hill, and accompanying an interment." As no other barrows are recorded on Selsley Hill, these would *appear* to have been found in the

## LONG BARROWS

Long Barrow. But there may have been flat burials (such as quarrying would reveal) and their *provenance* must therefore remain doubtful.

*W.* 28.

*Proc. C.N.F.C.* v. 279.

*Trans. B. and G.A.S.*, Vol. v, 1880-81, 61.

## ULEY

See HETTY PEGLER'S TUMP, p. 102.

## WEST BARROW

(often referred to as "The Leighterton Barrow")

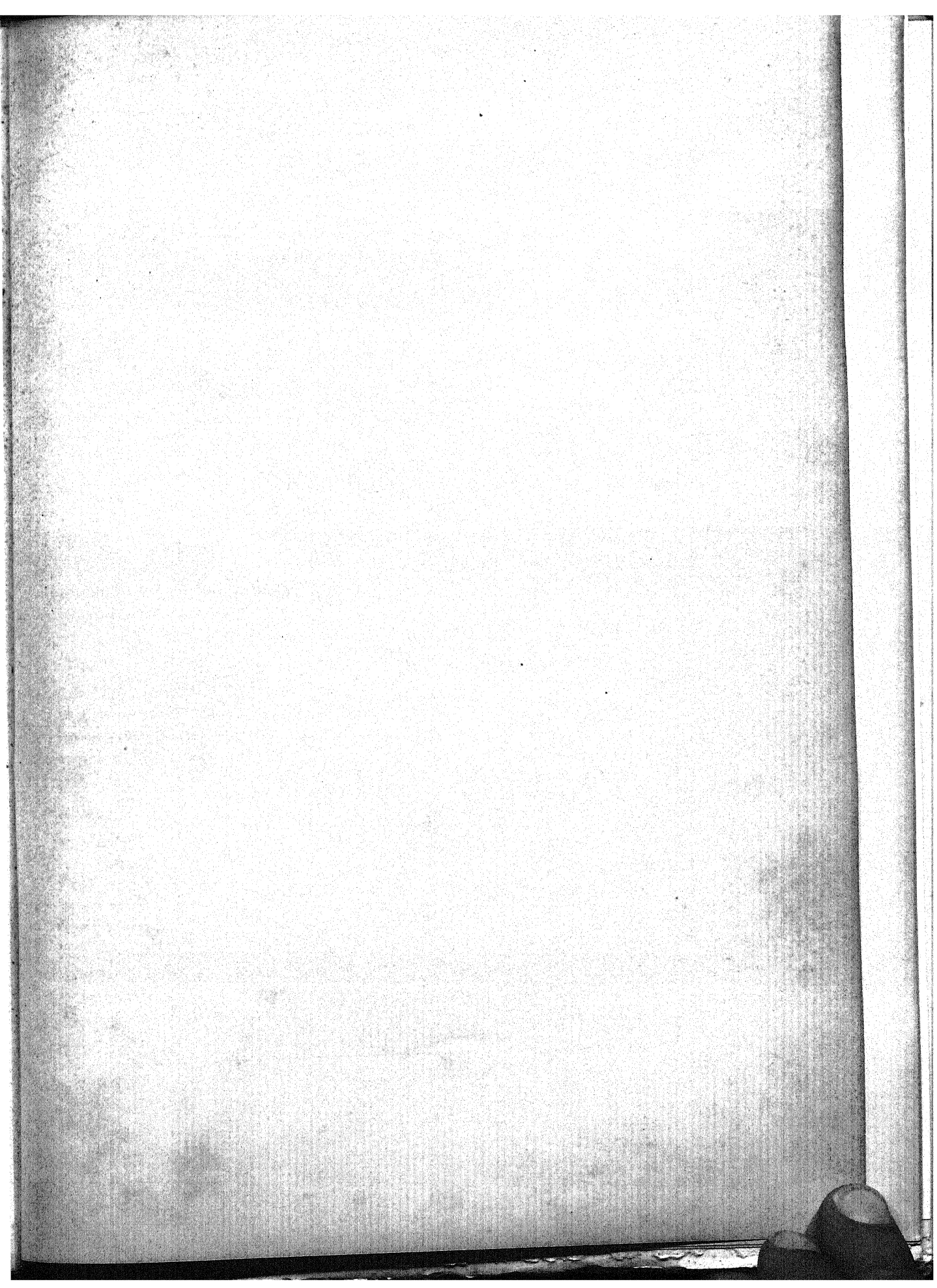
Gloucestershire, 65 N.W. Parish of Boxwell-with-Leighterton. 51\*.

Latitude 51° 37' 12". Longitude 2° 15' 40". Height above O.D. about 590 feet.

Aubrey says : " Near Layterton in the field is an oblong barrow like Hubba's Low but broader ; it is made of the field stones as the other, and lies west and eastward. At the great end (in a place digged) is a stone, standing as here in the figure. On the other side of the village is such another barrow."

Witts says : " Opened about the year 1700 by Matthew Huntley. It contained three vaults arched over like ovens, and at the entrance of each was found an earthen jar containing burnt human bones, but the skulls and thigh bones were found unburnt."

Visited December 8th, 1920. This is the highest Long Barrow I have seen, and is equalled only by the East Kennet Long Barrow. Its height is, I should think, about 20 feet at the east end which, as usual, is the highest. It is 220 feet long, and is partially surrounded and very impartially protected by a wall. As shown by the hachures, the east end projects beyond this wall. There are no visible remains of the "oven-like" chambers, except the silted up excavations made by Matthew Huntley. He appears to have dug over the mound pretty thoroughly and to have left little for future excavators even to see. Since the year 1700 Nature has doubtless completed the work of destruction. The principal excavations appear to have been at the E. end and on the N. side. On the S. side is what *looks* like the remains of the original







# WEST TUMP

Passage in south side of barrow at the time of excavation.





#### WEST TUMP

Portals at east end after removal of dry walling (the "lintel" is merely a wooden plank placed there by the excavators). Compare view opposite plate. Taken before dry walling between portals was removed.

# *ERRATUM*

WEST TUMP. Plate No. 2.  
For sentence "Compare view  
opposite plate," read "Compare  
the view opposite page 70."





### WEST TUMP

Portals and north-east horn at the time of excavation.



## GLOUCESTERSHIRE

walling, much overgrown and covered with soil. The mound is fairly thickly overgrown with trees of all kinds. It is worth protecting.

W. 21.

Atkyns, *Hist. of Gloucestershire*, p. 155.

Rudder's *Gloucestershire*, 1779, p. 306.

Aubrey, *Momumenta Britannica*, fol. 61. (This manuscript has never been published.

It is in the Bodleian, where it is referred to as "MSS. Gen. Top. C, 24-25").

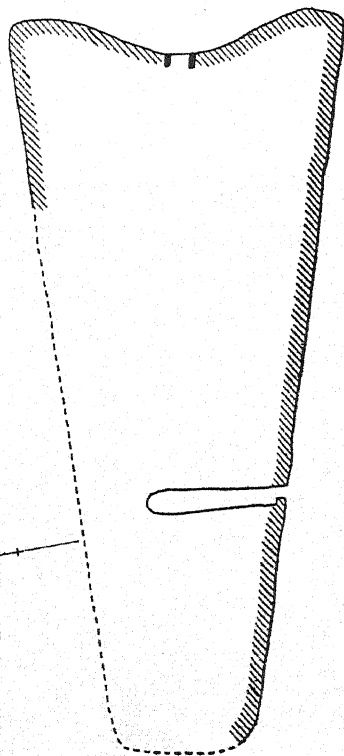
## WEST TUMP

Gloucestershire, 34 S.W. Parish of Brimpsfield. 52\*.

Latitude 51° 49' 02". Longitude 2° 07' 43". Height above O.D. 900 feet.

Witts gives the following account of this barrow in his *Handbook* (pp. 89-93):—

"This barrow is to be found in the middle of Buckholt Wood, in the parish of Brimpsfield, about one and a half miles south west of Birdlip. I discovered it accidentally in July, 1880, and in the following autumn [October] thoroughly examined it. The direction of the barrow is south-east and north-west, the well-developed 'horns' being at the south-east end. Its length is 149 feet; greatest width, 76 feet, and greatest height 10 feet 3 inches. A well-built dry wall surrounds the whole mound, faced only on the outer side. At the south-east end, between the 'horns,' the walls attain a height of 3 feet 6 inches. The 'horns' are of equal size, and in the centre of the concavity between them are two upright stones, forming as it were a doorway; but this proved to be a deception, as there was no passage or chamber at this end. Four skeletons were found lying outside the circumscribing wall and close to it. The principal chamber was discovered at a distance of 82 feet from the southern 'horn.' Here there was a passage through the wall 2 feet wide.



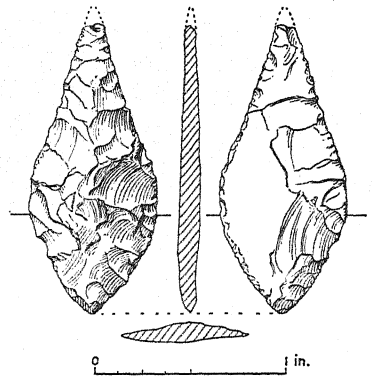
WEST TUMP.

After Witts, *B. & G.A.S.*, vol. v. 1880-1, plate 25. 1:400

In breaking through the

## LONG BARROWS

rubble of the opening, we found two pieces of British pottery and a very perfect leaf-shaped arrowhead [illustrated here, actual size, from an original drawing]. A passage 3 feet wide and 7 feet long led to the main chamber or trench; this passage was filled with rubble and bones in a very disorderly or confused state. The chamber was excavated below the original surface of the ground, beginning gradually to decline until it reached a depth of 15 inches. The width of it was 4 feet and length 15 feet 6 inches. We discovered the remains of upwards of 20 skeletons; the last one we found was at the end of the chamber, 24 feet from the outside wall; here were five flat stones, arranged in the shape of a semi-circle, and on these was deposited in a contracted form, the skeleton of, probably, a young female, with the remains of a baby in close proximity. Professor Rolleston (whose valuable assistance I was privileged to have during the excavation) was of opinion that the barrow was erected in honour of this Cotteswold chieftainess. All the skulls found were of the dolichocephalic type."



The letter following, dated "Hôtel de Londres, Genoa, January 17th, 1881," was, according to Wits, the last written by Rolleston on any archaeological subject. It is too long to quote here in full nor does it add anything material to the subject.

I visited West Tump on December 12th, 1920. It stands in a wood of small beeches, a few of which grow on the mound. The "false" entrance (plate opp. p. 70), at the east end is still visible, flanked by two small upright slabs. Excavations have been made west of it along the central axis of the mound. The passage and trench on the south appear to have been filled in again, since no masonry is visible, and only a shallow depression marks the site. There are no visible signs of the surrounding wall or of ditches, and there is nothing now visible which could be planned. The mound appears to be in no danger of destruction.

I am indebted to Mrs. Hicks-Beach, of Witcombe Park, for the loan of the arrowhead for illustration.

W. 35. (Plan given on margin of map).

*Trans. B. and G.A.S.*, v. 201.

## GLOUCESTERSHIRE

### WESTWOOD BARROW

Gloucestershire, 50 N.E. Parish of Edgeworth. 53\*.

Latitude  $51^{\circ} 44' 45''$ . Longitude  $2^{\circ} 05' 33''$ . Height above O.D. about 710 feet.

This barrow is marked on the Ordnance Map, but is not mentioned at all by Witts. I visited it on December 6th, 1920. It is evidently the remains of a chambered Long Barrow which has been almost totally destroyed by quarrying. Its length is 160 feet; originally it was a little more, the E. end being cut off by a wall. Of the chambers only five large stones remain. Probably the barrow was destroyed to get materials for building the wall on the N.E. side, not more than 100 years ago, I should say, and probably less. It is noticeable that the least disturbed portion of the barrow is the W. end which is furthest from the wall in question. It is hardly worth any further protection, as it could scarcely be more effectually destroyed than it has been.

### WHITEFIELD'S TUMP

Gloucestershire, 49 S.E. Parish of Minchinhampton. 54\*.

Latitude  $51^{\circ} 42' 49''$ . Longitude  $2^{\circ} 12' 40''$ . Height above O.D. about 670 feet.

Situated "a little to the north of the Amberley Camp." Much disturbed. Orientation E.S.E.-W.N.W. Probable dimensions 75 feet long by 36 broad. Highest end at east. Known as "Whitefield's Tump," from the tradition that George Whitefield (1714-1770) preached here, probably in March, 1743.

Visited November 30th, 1920. It has been much dug over but is quite easy to find. It lies 90 yards S.W. of the milestone (Stroud 3 miles, Cirencester 11 miles). Immediately E. of the E. end is what *looks* like the remains of a much dug over round barrow.

W. 36.

*Proc. C.N.F.C.*, v., 279.

A. T. Playne, *Minchinhampton and Avening* (John Bellows, Gloucester, 1915), p. 127.

## LONG BARROWS

### WHITTLESTONE or WHISTLESTONE

Gloucestershire, 22 S.W. Parish of Lower Swell. 107.

Latitude  $51^{\circ} 55' 49''$ . Longitude  $1^{\circ} 44' 57''$ . Height above O.D., between 500 and 600 feet.

The site only is marked on the Ordnance Map. It is on the top of a ridge caused apparently by the outcrop of a seam of hard rock. There are no signs of a mound anywhere. The ground is occupied by allotments. Not mentioned by Witts.

The above height and coördinates relate to the *former* site of the stone, which is marked on the 1903 edition of the O.S. map. The following account gives all that is known of it:—"Within a stone's throw [actually 200 yards] from the north-west angle of the church [of Lower Swell], on the summit of the rising ground, in the allotments, stood, within the memory of the writer of this paper [the Rev. David Royce], a familiar, yet most venerable monolith. It was known as the Whistlestone (so called, perhaps, from this the Wheat Hill, as the one beyond was the Oat Hill). This stone was the last, most probably, of a cist. Many bones were found at its base. A witticism amongst the villagers was this:—'When the Whistlestone hears Stow clock (a mile off) strike twelve, it goes down to Lady-well (at the hill's foot) to drink.' Alas! poor Whistlestone. Farmer Illes, one of the olden time, one day picked up two of a perfect set of teeth, in ploughing by the stone, but so harried was he by the weirdy teeth that he replaced them speedily where he found them. But a later occupier did what the good folk of the village declared could *not* be done—for 'all the King's horses and all the King's men' could not cast down nor carry away Whistlestone—but it was carried away—yet rescued from the roads or profane use. In the Vicarage paddock the prehistoric block now finds asylum."

All archæologists will be grateful to the late Mr. Royce, both for preserving the stone itself from destruction and for leaving so valuable an account of it behind. The stone at present lies flat in the Vicarage paddock, near the hedge on the western side. It is a shapeless mass 4 feet by 3 feet 6 inches and 1 foot 6 inches thick. It is of the usual oolitic stone. Mr. Royce's account is important for several reasons. It provides good evidence in the discovery of bones and teeth, that the stone was the last remnant of a burial-chamber (as he says, calling it a "cist"). It preserves the record of two common pieces of folklore—that the stone

## GLOUCESTERSHIRE

went down to drink when it heard the clock strike twelve, and that it could not be moved from its position. Both these tales are told of other stones in the area of Sheet 8—the former (modified to suit salt water) about Gwal-y-filiast, Monmouthshire (No. 112), and the latter about the Hoar Stone (No. 92), close by.

*Trans. B. and G.A.S.*, VII, 1882-3, 75, 6. ("Finds near Stow-on-the-Wold," by the Rev. David Royce, Vicar of Lower Swell).

## WILLERSEY BARROW

Gloucestershire, 7 S.E.      Parish of Willersey.      55\*.

Latitude 52° 02' 33".      Longitude 1° 49' 42".      Height above O.D. about 850 feet.

Witts gives its length as 160 feet, width 66 feet and height at the east end 4 feet 6 inches. It lies within Willersey Camp. The following remarks, being the only known accounts of its "excavation," are quoted verbatim:—"Through the kindness and liberality of Mr. Chadwick, the owner of the property, this barrow was in some measure opened ten days ago [written July 25th, 1884]. The outside walls on the north and south sides were clearly traced, and some very large stones were found at the east end. A few bones were discovered under the largest stone. These have been carefully preserved, and the opening, so far as it went, has been left for your inspection." (p. 11). "From the camp a short walk brought the party to the barrow, which with praiseworthy zeal Mr. Witts had on the previous day [July 23rd, 1884], with a willing party of workers, partially excavated. The face of the outer wall of the barrow was exposed for some distance, also the walls of some of the chambers, though displaced probably by previous explorers. Here the bones of the ox were found, and also many fragments of human bones and of pottery, with some flint chips. After an explanation of the form and extent of the barrow, a hearty vote of thanks was given to Mr. Chadwick for his permission to explore the barrow, and to those who had so well done the work. The carriages were resumed. . . ." (p. 29).

That is the only record left to posterity by the persons responsible for the affair. The dates are irreconcilable but are given as in the original.

The barrow stands in a ploughed field, and is crossed by a field wall. About 500 feet to the east is a round barrow. Visited Nov. 16th, 1920.

*W.* 37.

*Trans. B. and G.A.S.*, IX, 1884-5, pp. 11, 29. (Quoted above).



## LONG BARROWS

### WINDMILL TUMP

(generally called "The Rodmarton Long Barrow.") 56\*.

Gloucestershire, 58 N.E. Parish of Rodmarton.

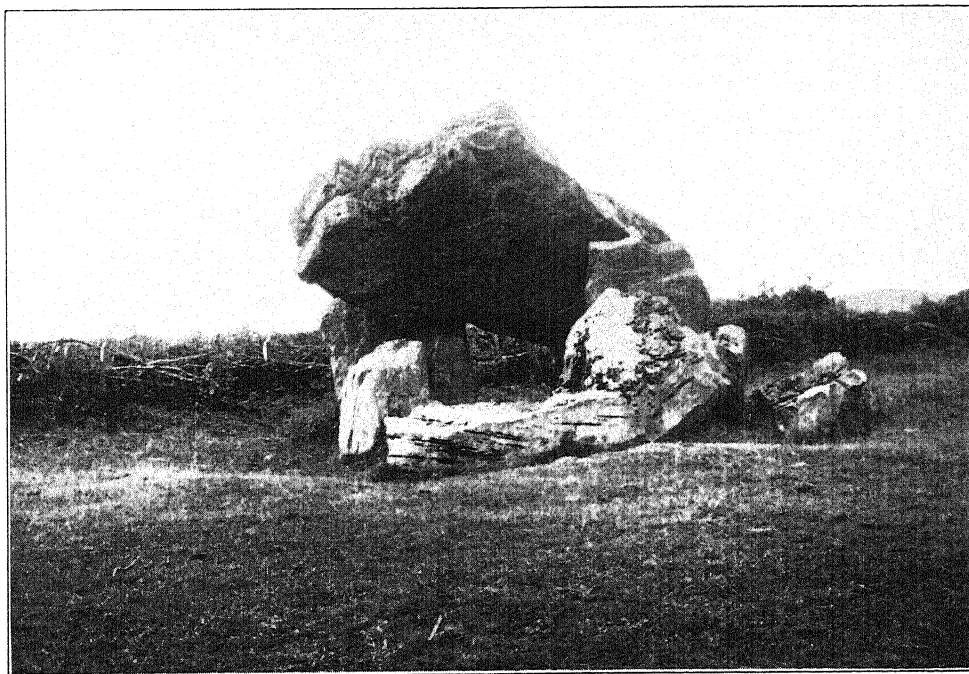
Latitude  $51^{\circ} 40' 26''$ . Longitude  $2^{\circ} 05' 50''$ . Height above O.D. about 480 feet.

Thurnam's account in *Crania Britannica* is as follows:—"The barrow is placed on the edge of a hill which slopes to the west, where two or three valleys meet. Its present length is about 180 feet; greatest breadth 70 feet; the height, near the east end, about 8 feet. During the year 1863 it was explored by the owner, the Rev. S. Lysons, F.S.A. (by whom it is briefly described in the *Proceedings of the Society of Antiquaries*, 2 S. II., 275). About 25 feet from the eastern end, and somewhat more than a foot below the surface, two standing stones were uncovered. The stones were about 5 feet apart, and faced each other north and south. They were sunk about 3 feet below the natural level, having a total height of  $8\frac{1}{2}$  feet, that on the north side being a few inches higher than the other. In front of these, on the east side, and resting against them, was an oblong flat slab, about 8 feet in length by 4 feet in breadth, preserved in a slanting position by two low walls of flat stones, which slightly diverged from the outer edges of the two uprights, the space between which was filled in to a certain height by a third dry wall [Thurnam's plan, No. 1]. The three stones together occupied the same situation as the triliths which form entrances to the sepulchral chambers at Stoney Littleton and at Uley." [Also numerous other Long Barrows, such as those at Camp, West Tump, Belas Knap, Lodge Park, etc]. After noting the traces of fire observed at the base of the mound in front of these stones, he continues:—"Not only was there a considerable deposit of fine charcoal, but the colour of the stones of which the barrow is formed was in some places changed to a grey and in others to a reddish hue. Beneath or near this trilith there was no trace of human bones; but numerous bones and teeth of oxen, horses, and tusks of boars were scattered about. Near the centre of the tumulus, a foot or two below the surface, a coin of Claudius Gothicus [A.D. 268-270], a curved nail, and a ferrule about 3 inches long, both of iron—vestiges probably of Roman tomb-breakers—were picked up.



### WINDMILL TUMP

Portals at east end from inside the barrow (looking east)



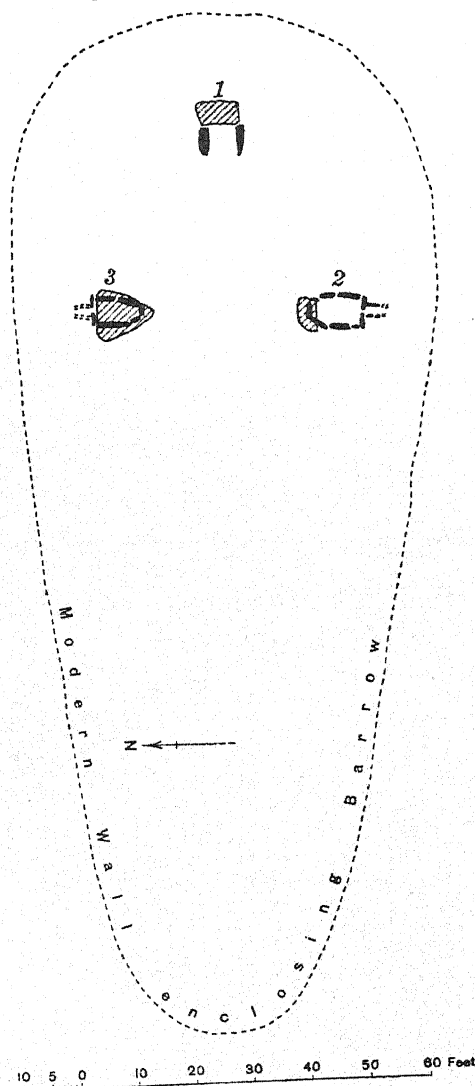
Y GARN LLWYD (p. 155)



## GLOUCESTERSHIRE

"On the south side, at no great depth, another Roman coin and a piece of a small horseshoe were found; and immediately beneath was a sepulchral chamber [Thurnam's plan, No. 2] which had been rifled, having been opened from above, by the removal of one or perhaps two of its covering stones. One such remained, 5 feet long and 3 feet wide, at the northern end. This chamber was about 8 feet long, 4 feet wide, and between 4 and 5 feet in height—its walls being formed of a combination of ortholithic and horizontal masonry, without a trace of cement. None of the uprights, nine in number, were high enough to reach the capstones. The two at the south end, where was the entrance, were of a curious form—hollowed out on one side, so as together to form a kind of port-hole, through which access to the tomb, in a creeping posture, could be obtained. Outside, a narrow, short gallery, formed of upright stones, led from the skirt of the barrow to the entrance. With the rubble by which the chamber was filled were fragments of several skeletons and a few bits of coarse British pottery.

"Exactly opposite, at a distance of about 30 feet, another chamber [Thurnam's plan No. 3] of similar construction was uncovered on the northern side of the tumulus. It was somewhat shorter and wider than the other, and formed of seven upright stones, covered by a single capstone, weighing, as computed, eight tons. The narrow gallery leading to the entrance was formed of horizontal dry walling and not of standing stones. This

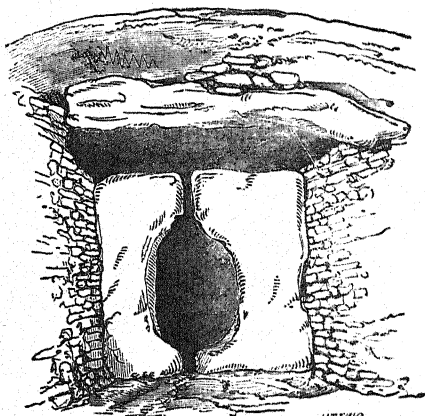


WINDMILL TUMP, RODMARTON, after Thurnam, *Crania Britannica*, II. 1865. 1:400



## LONG BARROWS

chamber was fortunately intact; it was entered by removing the dry walling between the capstone and the two hollowed stones which

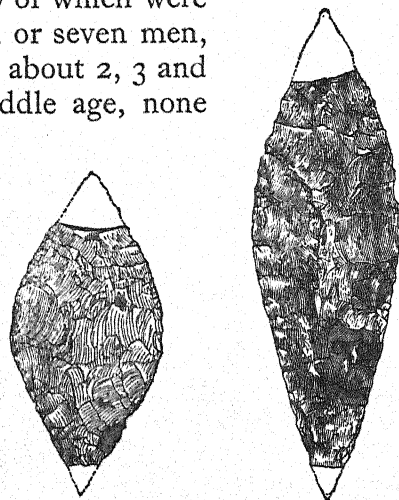


Entrance to chamber 3 on north side of  
WINDMILL TUMP, RODMARTON.

form the proper entrance [see woodcut]. This was protected by a third stone placed in front, by which the opening was concealed . . . . The chamber was entirely free from rubble, but contained the remains of thirteen persons, which appeared to have been deposited in a crouching posture. Among the bones were a nodule of siliceous grit, as big as the fist, very much battered, a few shards of rather thin, black, rude pottery; a small fragment of a fine green stone, ground and rudely polished; a large flint from which flakes had been broken off, and

three flakes and two finely chipped, leaf-shaped arrowheads of flint, of the same type with others from Long Barrows in Wiltshire and Yorkshire: there were also a few burnt bones, which, like those from the chambered barrow at Nympsfield, were very imperfectly incinerated, and some of them merely charred. The skulls, many of which were encrusted with stalagmite, are those of six or seven men, three or four women, and three children of about 2, 3 and 12 years. Those of the adults are of middle age, none perhaps of more than 55 years. . . . Though the remains of a people of short stature, the form of the bones shows that they were endowed with powerful and vigorous frames."

The site was visited on December 4th, 1920. The barrow stands in a ploughed field, but is protected from encroachment by a surrounding wall like that at Cold Aston. It is in a deplorable state of ruin, having been left open and uncared for after excavation. A great deal could be done to preserve



Leaf-shaped flint arrow-heads  
found in the northern chamber (3) of  
WINDMILL TUMP, RODMARTON.



## GLOUCESTERSHIRE

it if prompt measures were taken. The chamber on the south side is more or less intact, but that on the north is in a very bad way. The entrance is completely blocked with fallen stones, the remains of the dry walling doubtless, which has collapsed. Some remains of the dry walling may exist underneath this but it is hardly visible now. The whole barrow is overgrown with small bushes and trees, all of which should be cut down before the damage they cause increases. A pile of human bones from this barrow (no skulls) is stacked at the bottom of a case in the Cheltenham College Museum. They are said to have been found (or presented ?) in 1864.

W. 27.

*Arch.*, IX., 367; XLII., 200, 217, Fig. 12 (reproduced also in *Arch. Celt. et Gauloise*, by A. Bertrand, 2nd ed., 1889, Fig. 37): arrowheads, Figs. 22 and 23, reproduced above.

*Cran. Brit.*, Vol. II (views and plan of barrow,  $\frac{1}{4}$  in): account by Thurnam, quoted above.

*Proc. Soc. Ant.*, 2 S. II., 275 (Lysons); III., 168.

S. Lysons's *Our British Ancestors* (1865), pp. 137, 150.

*Reliq. Brit. Rom.*, II., 8., III., 7.

*Journ. Anthr. Soc.*, III., 1865, pp. LXVI., LXVIII; (quoting Lysons).

*Mem. Anthr. Soc.* Vol. I. (1863-4) p. 153.

## WITHINGTON BARROW

Gloucestershire, 35 S.E. Parish of Withington. 57\*.

Latitude  $51^{\circ} 49' 33''$ . Longitude  $1^{\circ} 57' 19''$ . Height above O.D. about 730 feet.

About 150 feet long. Oriented N.E.—S.W. "Several stones—forming chambers—are exposed, and it is evident that excavations have been made at some time, and some of the chambers examined; but no record has been kept and nothing is known as to what was found."

Visited December 21st 1920. It lies to the west of Swilly Bottom (which joins the Coln Valley at Woodbridge) on the edge of Pear-tree Bank. (These names were told me on the spot by a game-keeper). I had comparatively little difficulty in finding it, as the whole of that part of the wood in which it lies has now been cut down. It is oriented N.E.—S.W., the N.E. end being the highest, about 6 feet. It is perfect, except at the ends, both of which have been disturbed. At the S.W. end are some large stones, but as the small crater on whose sides they lie was

## LONG BARROWS

covered with felled underwood, it was difficult to make exact observations. They are of no great size and do not appear to be arranged in any order. The surface at present is stony and loose and much covered by moss. The stools of two or three large trees remain. Otherwise both it and its surroundings are bare of all vegetation. It does not stand on the highest part of the hill, but it *does* lie close to the edge of the steep western side of Swilly Bottom. There are many "Roman" snail shells in this part of the wood. About a quarter of a mile to the N.W. is a Round Barrow, not marked on the map (1903 ed).

W. 38.

## WOODBARROW

Gloucestershire, 35 S.E.      Parish of Chedworth.      58\*.  
Latitude  $51^{\circ} 48' 31''$ .      Longitude  $1^{\circ} 54' 10''$ .      Height above O.D. about 640 feet.

Not mentioned by Witts.

Visited December 22nd, 1920. It lies in a ploughed field called Woodbarrow. I was told by the two ploughboys at work in the field that this was its name; and that the field immediately opposite on the N. side of the road was called "Royal Oak" ("because there is an oak on the edge of the wood which comes out a fortnight before the other," added Frederick Norman, who confirmed these names to me). The barrow is about 210 feet long and is oriented N. and S. Its present height is not more than 2 to 3 feet. (A subsequent examination of Isaac Taylor's Map of Gloucestershire, 1777, reveals the fact that it was known as "Wood Barrow" then, and was sufficiently high and conspicuous to be shown as a hachured mound).

In Gough's *Camden* is the following account:—"On the hill, a little above the bath (a Roman hypocaust in Listercombe), is a large tumulus which had a huge rough stone set upright; which being lately removed, exposed great quantities of human bones lying near the top of the barrow."

Gough's *Camden*, Vol. I., 1789, p. 281.

Rudder, p. 334.

## HEREFORDSHIRE

### ARTHUR'S STONE

Herefordshire, 31 N.E.      Parish of Dorstone.      60\*.

Latitude 52° 04' 55".      Longitude 2° 59' 38".      Height above O.D. about 920 feet.

This monument is under the protection of the Ancient Monuments Department of the Office of Works ; the key is kept at Caerperthy Farm, 500 yards E.S.E. of the monument. It is clearly the remains of a chambered Long Barrow, the mound being still visible around the burial chamber and still distinguishable to the N.W., where it is crossed by the lane known as Arthur's Stone Lane. The northern hedge of this lane forms here the boundary between the parishes of Dorstone and Bredwardine. The remains consist of a large burial-chamber and capstone still covering it, with a short approaching " passage " of two upright slabs on the N.W. At right angles to this passage, to the N.W. of it and on the S.W. side of the mound, is another passage formed of two uprights on each side, the space between each of the uprights being filled with smaller stones of which vestiges remain. The capstone itself is very large, about 15 feet by 9 feet across the middle where it is broken across. It has also split horizontally and a large " flake " has become detached ; this is due to the original " false-bedded " stratification of the sandstone of which it is formed. The capstone covers a chamber of polygonal shape formed by the uprights still in position (including one fallen). The plan of the chamber resembles that at Gwernvale (Brecknockshire), Hengwm (Merionethshire), and some of the Gloucestershire examples, but at Gwernvale the capstone is now gone. There is now a space of 2 feet or more between the uprights, filled originally, no doubt, by smaller stones built in, as in the S.W. passage. The orientation of the mound is from slightly W. of N. to E. of S., the chamber being at the southern end. At the south end, 10 feet south of the south end of the capstone, is an isolated upright slab (long axis East-West) with a fallen (?) stone lying at its side in contact with it. Possibly this may be the remains of the surrounding wall of uprights, of which there are no other traces ; it is difficult otherwise to explain its purpose. At about 2 feet from the ground on the northern face of this stone, is a horizontal row of about a dozen " cup-markings," the size of a large finger-dint ; no opinion is hazarded as to their age or origin. Higher up on the same face are names cut by visitors in 1912 and at earlier dates. The view from the spot is magnificent,

## LONG BARROWS

especially southwards towards Abergavenny and across to the Black Mountains. Visited August 15th, 1921.

The site was visited on July 26th, 1872 by the members of the Woolhope Club, when an account of it was read and published in the *Transactions* for 1872, pp. 4 and 5 ; the following is an extract :—

“ The stone. . . is still supported by the six smaller stones upon which it was originally placed. It is surrounded at about 8 feet distance by a circle of stones of considerable size, which are now mostly covered with greensward. There seems to have been an inner circle of upright stones about 4 feet high, of which only four are now to be traced, the remainder having probably been broken up and carried off to mend the road. . . . One of these stones which is singularly marked as though with a gigantic thumb and two fingers, lies on the roadside, where it is shown by some relaters of local tradition as bearing the marks of King Arthur's knees, as he knelt down ; while others declare that the marks are those of his thumb and fingers when he was playing at quoits. The marks themselves seem to have been produced by water. . . . How the stone reached its present position is a matter for conjecture, but it is probable that it was, with other smaller stones, brought from the Wye.”

It is more probable that the stones described as ranged in a circle round the chamber are the remains of an encircling “ peristalith ” enclosing the mound. With the exception of the southernmost described above they seem to have disappeared. The stone by the roadside is still there, but lies outside the railing of H.M. Office of Works, in the ditch.

In an essay on the monument published in the same *Transactions* (1881, pp. 175–180), the then President of the Woolhope Club [G. H. Piper] gave two illustrations of it, one as it was in 1804, and one as it was in 1881. In the former it appears to have been in much the same state as it is now. Piper adds a few details not in the earlier account, such as the name of the hill on which it stands, which is now spelt Merbach, but was spelt Morbridge on the old MS 2 in. Ordnance Survey map of 1814. He also says : “ The whole [“ cromlech ”] stands on a mound of oval shape, its long axis 20 yards, its short axis 10 yards.” (p. 177). This is a good example of inaccurate observation. The stones, all of them, rest on the natural surface of the ground, and though doubtless originally their lower portions were more covered by the mound than at present, they can never have stood *on* the mound by any possibility what-

## HEREFORDSHIRE

ever. (This error is worth special notice, since it proves that, in an instance where it is possible to test this very common assertion by actual observation, it is found to be untrue. It is unlikely that similar statements of other "cromlechs" said to stand *upon* mounds, contain any more accurate basis in fact). Piper quotes an account of the chamber in 1728-9 by Nathaniel Salmon (born about 1676), who says it was called "Artil's Stone, corrupted probably from Arthur's Stone." Piper adds: "Salmon's details. . . . prove that the appearance of the cromlech is now much the same as it was 200 years ago. The great top stone was then broken, and the description generally would apply to the present state of this curiously interesting ruin."

Nathaniel Salmon. *A new Survey of England, wherein the defects of Camden are supplied and the errors of his followers remarked.* 1728-9.

*Transactions of the Woolhope Club*, 1872, pp. 4 and 5; 1881, pp. 175-180; 1901-2, pp. 194-9; (and a paper by Mr. J. G. Wood, read May 27th, 1920.)

*Arch. Camb.*, 2 S. v., 94-6.

*Beauties of England and Wales*, by E. W. Brayley and J. Britton, Vol. vi, 1805, p. 545.

## PARK WOOD

Herefordshire, 38 S.W.      Parish of St. Margaret's.      61.

In describing a cruciform earthwork (probably a mediæval enclosure bank) in St. Margaret's Park Wood, the late Mr. George Clinch says: "About 250 yards N.E. of this earthwork, there is (or was in 1854 when the account was written), a flat, horizontal slab of limestone like the upper stone of a cromlech." Its form was oval, measuring 27 feet 6 inches by 9 feet 6 inches, with an average thickness of 2 feet 6 inches. "This stone" the writer of the account in *A. J.* referred to by Mr. Clinch (the Rev. Dr. Jenkins of Hereford) continues, "lies on the declivity of the wooded hill, its face on the western side being level with the adjacent surface of the ground and on this side there is a trench, 2 feet wide and 2½ feet deep, which appears to have been at one time much deeper, and to have been filled up by soil brought down by the rain into it. On the east side, and partly on the north, the ground slopes from it, and a cavity appears under the slab. Half a century ago, as stated by an old man in the neighbourhood, it stood wholly free from the ground on certain upright stones. There is still at the west end of the slab, but now at a slight distance from it, an upright stone, flat at top, which



## LONG BARROWS

may have originally been one of those on which it was supported. It seems probable that these may be the remains of a fallen cromlech." This conclusion seems highly probable from the account quoted. A careful search failed, however, to discover it, although the cruciform earthwork was located; nor did local enquiries prove more successful. The site is now a thick wood (called St. Margaret's Park Wood on the old Ordnance Survey 2 in. to the mile MS map of 1814) and the name "park" applied to it, though doubtless historically correct, is misleading, since there has not been for a very long time at any rate, anything like a modern park here. Visited August 17th, 1921.

*Arch. Journal*, xi., 1854, pp. 55-6 (the Rev. Dr. Jenkins).

*Victoria County History* (Herefordshire) Vol. I., 1908, p. 160 (Mr. George Clinch).

Compare *Gentleman's Magazine*, 1853, Part II., pp. 387-9 (*Gent's Mag. Library*, ed. by G. L. Gomme, *Archæology*, Part I., pp. 269-273; account of cruciform mound, etc., by Thomas Jenkins, but no mention of the "cromlech.")

## MONMOUTHSHIRE

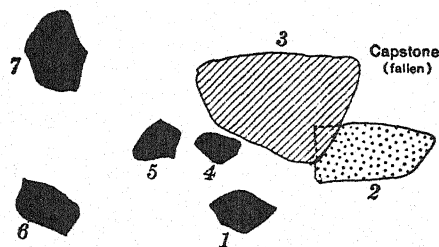
### CLEPPA PARK

Monmouthshire, 33 N.E. Parish of Duffryn. 62\*.

Latitude  $51^{\circ} 33' 33''$ . Longitude  $3^{\circ} 02' 38''$ . Height above O.D. about 140 feet.

This is clearly the remains of a burial-chamber, but traces of the original covering mound are faint. It was probably oriented due E. and W., and as usual, the remains of the mound are most clear round the chamber at the east end where the mound is almost 50 feet across. To the west, traces of the mound are visible and may be inferred from hummocky brown patches of turf; if the inference from these patches is correct the original length of the mound would have been about 135 feet. The chamber consists at present of seven stones—a capstone, three standing uprights, one fallen, and two small, half-buried stones. The monument is not marked on the 6 in. map (edition of 1902); it is situated on the brow of the hill 500 feet S.E. of the farm called Cleppa Park, after which (for lack of any distinctive local name) it is here named. It lies almost midway between an old quarry and a spinney by the side of a field wall.

The following description is taken from Mrs. Bagnall-Oakeley's monograph:—"About a mile from Tredegar Park is a farm, Gwern-y-cleppa [Gwern-y-clepai on the old MS. 2 in. O.S. map of 1812] the resi-



CLEPPA PARK.

After Mrs. Bagnall-Oakeley, with additions by the author. 1:100

dence of Ivor Hael, and upon a sloping bank to the south-west [an error for *south-east*] in part of the ancient park are the ruins of what was originally a large cromlech. Facing the Bristol Channel, with a glorious expanse of hill and vale stretching out for many miles beyond it, the situation of this burial place is grand in the extreme, and when covered with its superincumbent mound of earth must have

been visible at a very long distance. The supporting stones have been mutilated and the coverer [capstone] broken, but enough remains to show that the whole structure was of considerable size; three of the uprights remain *in situ*, the largest being 3 feet 7 inches broad by 2 feet 9 inches thick, and measures 3 feet 6 inches high, but appears to have been broken

## LONG BARROWS

off at this height ; another stone which evidently formed one of the supports, now lies partly under the coverer [capstone], and this measures 2 feet 6 inches square and is 4 feet 6 inches long, which was probably the original height of the cist [chamber] ; these stones are of conglomerate or millstone grit. The covering stone [capstone] has been split in two and only one part remains, which measures 7 feet 8 inches by 5 feet 6 inches, but as this is partly covered with soil at its edge it may be a little wider ; it is of siliceous grey sandstone. The cist [chamber] lay S.E. and N.W. [?] and the mound which covered it was about 50 feet in diameter, of which traces remain."

A visit of inspection on August 19th, 1921, confirmed the above description in every particular, except that it was not possible from the data available to discover any orientation for the burial-chamber. The remains are to-day in the same condition as they were in 1889 ; the field is under grass, and except for the fact that sheep are hollowing out the earth at the base of the stones for shelter and are rubbing against the stones themselves for other purposes, the monument appears in no immediate danger of destruction.

*An account of some of the Rude Stone Monuments and Ancient Burial Mounds in Monmouthshire*, by M. E. Bagnall-Oakeley, assisted by the Rev. W. Bagnall-Oakeley, 1889. Printed for the Monmouthshire and Caerleon Antiquarian Association by Mullock & Sons, Newport. 22 pp., 9 pl. (Plate III, opposite p. 12, is a view of the burial-chamber looking N.W. ; the lower plan on Plate II, opposite p. 10, is a plan of the burial chamber).

*Arch. Camb.* 1909, p. 271.

## HESTON BRAKE

Monmouthshire, 30 S.E.      Parish of Portskewett.      63\*.

Latitude  $51^{\circ} 35' 38''$ .      Longitude  $2^{\circ} 42' 50''$ .      Height above O.D. 100 feet.

This chambered Long Barrow occupies the summit of a remarkable natural knoll, two thirds of a mile N.W. of Blackrock, the nearest point of the Severn estuary. The site is a striking one and commands a fine view over the shores on both sides. The visible remains consist of a double row or gallery of upright stones ; but they are so thickly overgrown with brambles that only those at the two ends of the gallery can be seen. There are faint but distinct traces of a mound or cairn, which was certainly 70 feet in length and probably longer. The mound has suffered

## MONMOUTHSHIRE

considerably from ploughing which has encroached upon it up the hill and thereby caused it to waste away on all sides. On the north side of the knoll this ploughing has so steepened the slope that a small stony declivity has formed, now overgrown with thorns and briars. At the west end of the knoll (probably beyond the limits of the original barrow) are piles of stones, the remains possibly of the cairn, scattered and then re-collected and thrown here when the field was under cultivation. It is these stones which are marked on the map under the (wrong) impression that they are structurally connected with the "tumulus," which in their present position can hardly be correct.

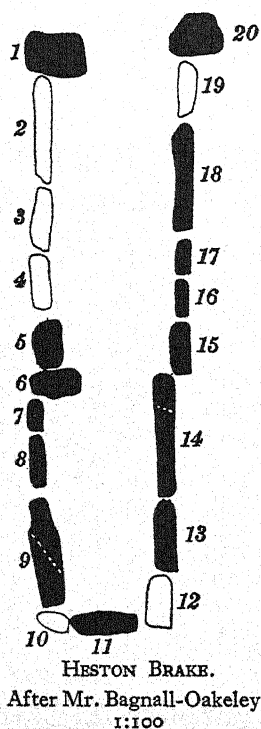
The gallery is 26 feet 3 inches long and contracts slightly towards the western end ; the width at the east end being 5 feet 6 inches and at the west end 3 feet 10 inches. The western end is closed by a single stone ; the eastern is open. The two stones at the eastern end of each row are the largest. The following notes were made on the spot, measurements being taken from Mrs. Bagnall-Oakeley's plan and account ; the stones are numbered in accordance with the plan.

1. A peaked upright of conglomerate sandstone with many white quartz pebbles in bands ; this is the highest stone in the monument and is almost 5 feet high (not now 6 feet as stated by Mrs. Bagnall-Oakeley).
- 2, 3, 4, were gone when the plan was made ; it is therefore presumed that their insertion on the plan was purely conjectural.
- 5, 6, 7. It was impossible even to see these on account of the brambles.
8. Is present.
9. Said by Mrs. Bagnall-Oakeley to be pierced with a diagonal hole about 1 foot in diameter, presumably artificially ; length 5 feet.
10. Was gone when the plan was made.
11. Seems to consist really of two in close contact ; it closes the west end and is 3 feet 10 inches long.
12. Was gone when the plan was made.
13. Is present ; length 3 feet.
14. Cannot now be seen ; it is pierced like 9 according to Mrs. Bagnall-Oakeley's account. Length, 5 feet 2 inches.

## LONG BARROWS

- 15-17. One of these is visible only, but all may be present.  
 18. Is about 3 feet long (4 feet 9 inches according to plan), the stump only being now visible.  
 19. Is not now visible, and is either buried or destroyed.  
 20. Is a sandstone block (without pebbles) 2 feet 9 inches wide (north-south) and about 3 feet high.

From the above it appears probable that the monument is in much the same state of preservation as it was when described by Mrs. Bagnall-Oakeley in 1889; the subsequent growth of brambles, while obscuring the stones, has perhaps contributed towards their safety; but the actual remains are so inconspicuous that they would hardly be noticed except by an expert, and a further measure of protection is therefore desirable.



The chamber was exposed on August 22nd, 1888 by the "members of the Monmouthshire and Caerleon Antiquarian Association and a few friends of the Clifton Antiquarian Club, and it was found to consist of two chambers connected internally." According to the plan the dividing line between these two chambers would appear to have been a little to the west of the middle of the gallery. "At the south corner of the west chamber were found part of a human skull and other bones much broken; and in the east corner a few more fragments of human bones. In the lower chamber in the west corner some human teeth and finger bones, some bones of an ox and two smooth, round stones were discovered. . . . on the north side of the mound, the workmen came upon three pieces of broken pottery; one of these was black and soft burnt, easily cut with a knife; another was grey, hard burnt, with lines upon it. . . . and near them lay a small piece of burnt bone. A third piece of pottery was very hard red ware, somewhat like Roman Samian ware."

These remains are now (August, 1921) in the Caerleon Museum, where they are exhibited with the original plan of the chamber made by Mr. Bagnall-Oakeley. Amongst the bones can be seen the head and part of the shaft of a human femur in a good state of preservation and part of



## MONMOUTHSHIRE

the jaw of some animal. The plan conceals most of the objects "exhibited" but one piece of pottery is visible—the base of a small pot about 2 inches in diameter, slightly concave and covered outside with a greenish glaze. It is of mediæval or later date. The label says: "The tumulus had evidently been opened at some time and all the bones violently broken." But whether this was so or not, the breaking was almost certainly original and caused, not by secondary disturbance, but by secondary burial.

Mr. J. G. Wood, M.A., F.S.A., contributes the following note:—"The names Heston Brake and Harpsen Barn which occur on the map are in my opinion corruptions of Herberdeston, a 'Welsh Knight's fee' held of the lordship of Striguil in the 13th century by Matthew Deneband of 'Portskewet and Herberdeston'; see Inq. P.M. of Roger, Earl of Norfolk, March, 1306-7. Portskewet was then the name of St. Pierre; and there is no other place than this hill to identify with Herberdeston."

Visited August 25th, 1921.

*Rude Stone Monuments in Monmouthshire*, by M. E. Bagnall-Oakeley, 1889, pp. 18-20, Plate VIII (sketch) and Plate IX (plan).

*Proceedings of the Clifton Antiquarian Club*, Vol. II, Part I (1888-9), pp. 64-66. *The Chambered Tumulus at Heston Brake, Monmouthshire*, by the Rev. William Bagnall-Oakeley.

*Arch. Camb.* 1909, p. 272.

## Y GARN LLWYD

Monmouthshire, 25 S.W. Parish of Newchurch West. 64\*.

Latitude 51° 39' 58".

Longitude 2° 47' 56".

Height above O.D. 700 feet.

This monument\* stands on a narrow neck of land forming the watershed between the Cas-Troggy Brook on the west flowing into the Severn at the Pill near Caldicot, and the Moun-ton Brook flowing into the Severn at Red Cliff. It lies immediately to the N.E. of the hedge on the N.E. side of the main road from Usk to Chepstow, in a green field, a little to the S.W. of some farm buildings. This main road was (according to Mr. J. G. Wood, M.A., F.S.A., from an unpublished paper by whom the following account is taken): "known as 'The New Usk Road' from Chepstow. That road cut in two the field in which the 'cromlech' stood, and which is itself bounded, on its eastern side, by the old trackway from

\* See illustration facing p. 142.

## LONG BARROWS

Shirenewton over Earlswood Common, by Mynydd Bach to the great camp further to the north called Gaer-fawr. Until that new road was made, the ' cromlech ' lay entirely secluded and out of the way of tourists, or indeed of any ordinary communication ; and though the Gaer-fawr is described by early writers, the ' cromlech ' appears to have been long unknown to, or unrecognised by, archæologists.

"The credit of its first mention belongs to the late Mr. Wakeman, according to a note in *Arch. Camb.* (1846, p. 277), where a woodcut of it is given. It is next mentioned in Cliffe's *Book of South Wales* (2nd ed. 1848) as follows :—' Between four and five miles to the north of Caerwent, on a hill forming part of a small farm called Gaer Llwyd, about a mile from Newchurch. . . . is the cromlech depicted in the accompanying sketch,' which is in fact a reproduction of the same woodcut. This sketch shows the covering-stone supported on the summits of three standing stones ; of which one carries the narrow (or north) end ; the other two support the shoulders of the broader end. The covering-stone is shown well clear of the ground, but it had a slope towards its narrow end, where the supporting stone leant inwards. At either end, but in positions where they could not have acted as supports, are shown two other standing stones. Around it were loose stones, apparently forming part of a circular enclosure.

"Cliffe proceeds: 'The upper stone is 12 feet long and about  $3\frac{1}{2}$  feet broad ; and the uprights vary from 4 to 5 feet. Vestiges of a trench and bank are discoverable round this cromlech, which is the only one in the county. . . .' [*This last statement is not of course, true ; and I think the trench and bank, which can still be seen, are merely the remains of old field enclosures of comparatively recent date.*—O.G.S.C.]

"In 1899. . . . Mrs. Bagnall-Oakeley described the ' cromlech.' . . . and gave a drawing of the stone in its then condition. This shows that the leaning stone at the north end as drawn in 1846 had fallen, and the north end of the covering-stone was consequently down also. The detached stone at the north end is still standing [correct for August, 1921.—O.G.S.C.] ; but that at the south has either fallen or been much reduced. When I last saw the ' cromlech ' in 1915 the stones were still more displaced. Mrs. Bagnall-Oakeley writes : ' The base of the mound is visible on the north-west [an obvious error for north-east] but has been totally destroyed on the other side by the road to Usk. It is evident that the mound was removed long ago.' "

## MONMOUTHSHIRE

Mr. Wood criticises the name "Gaer Llwyd" applied to the monument, while "agreeing with her that the 'cromlech' was most probably at first covered with a mound of earth; and did not, as originally designed and completed, stand exposed." In support of this opinion, with which the writer is in full agreement, Mr. Wood quotes examples from Anglesey, Cornwall, Brittany and Ireland. The name Gaer-Llwyd occurs on the old MS. 2-in. O.S. Map of 1812.

The visible remains of the mound, or more probably, cairn, are slight, and consist of a pile of loose stones at the N.E. end. But the rest has doubtless been completely destroyed by the making of the new road. Originally the mound or cairn must have had a N.E.-S.W. orientation, the chamber being at the north-east end. A visit of inspection on August 26th, 1921, did not reveal any new features. The drawing given on Plate I. of Mrs. Bagnall-Oakeley's paper is not at all accurate, especially as regards the left-hand portion; nor do the cliffs in the background exist.

In the paper quoted above Mr. Wood gives good reason for believing that the original name was Y Garn Llwyd, "the grey cairn"; and it is in fact described as a "Garne Lloyde" in a survey of "Sherenewton," made in A.D. 1613 [P.R.O. Duchy of Lancaster, Div. 18, No. 10]. Mr. Wood quotes many examples in Wales and Ireland of the use of "grey" in the names of prehistoric monuments; and agrees with Borlase (*Dolmens of Ireland*, p. 761) in suspecting that a "mythical meaning may underlie the simple adjective."

Although apparently in no immediate danger of destruction, the presence of a farm close by and of farm outbuildings within a few yards, makes its protection highly desirable; especially in view of the probability that these are constructed in part of the loose stones of the cairn itself.

An earlier record than that of Mr. Wakeman is in existence, in the form of a pencil drawing by Sarah Ormerod, dated August 9th, 1837. It is preserved in the Library of the Wiltshire Archæological Society at Devizes, Book N, folios 73 and 74.

*Rude Stone Monuments in Monmouthshire*, by M. E. Bagnall-Oakeley, 1889, p. 10, Plates I (sketch) and II (plan). [The latter is not now correct and appears never to have been very accurate].

*Arch. Camb.* 1846, p. 277; 1909, pp. 266, 271 (photo. on p. 267).

## LONG BARROWS

### CHURCHILL PLAIN

Oxfordshire, 25 N.E.      Parish of Wychwood.      64a.  
Latitude  $51^{\circ} 50' 55''$     Longitude  $1^{\circ} 31' 07''$     Height above O.D. a little over 500 feet.

I am indebted to Mr. E. Thurlow Leeds, F.S.A., for most of the following information. I have not seen the barrow yet.

The barrow is described as being on the north side of Churchill Plain ('plain' here being used in its original sense of an open tract in wooded country). This open glade is marked on the O.S. map between Wort's Well and the first capital 'C' in Churchill Copse. The barrow is on the south side of the main S.W.—N.E. ride, about 300 yards N.W. of Wort's Well. In *N.O.A.S.* it is described as follows:—"Before reaching the spot [Mr. Pretty] had to ascend a high bank, and on arrival at its summit he found . . . a square slightly intrenched work, measuring 60 feet on each side, the ditch being 3 feet wide. At the edge of the intrenched work, looking over the valley, he found a platform, about 3 feet in height, which had apparently been used as a stone altar. In the opposite direction he came to a long barrow, which was as perfect as if it had been in a gentleman's garden, preserved for a place of rest. This long barrow was 73 feet in length and 38 feet in width across." It has since been disturbed. It is about a quarter of a mile from the Slatepits Copse Long Barrow [No. 68].

*N.O.A.S.*, Feb. 9th, 1857, p. 4.

*Dryden Manuscripts*, Northampton Museum, (1858).

*P. Manning MSS.*, Ashmolean Museum, Oxford.

### CRAWLEY BARROW

Oxfordshire, 31 N.E.      Parish of Crawley.      65\*.  
Latitude  $51^{\circ} 47' 56''$ .    Longitude  $1^{\circ} 30' 40''$ .    Height above O.D. about 310 feet.

"About half-way between the high road from Witney to Burford and the village of Crawley, on the west side of the lane leading into the village, are the remains of what was once a barrow of considerable dimensions. It is of the class termed by antiquaries Long Barrows. A considerable portion (nearly one half) was removed some years ago, when

## OXFORDSHIRE

several skeletons were laid bare, but no relics of any kind were discovered. On measuring the remaining portion, it was found to be 107 feet long by 83 feet wide."

Excavated by Akerman with two men for one day. Three skeletons found lying east and west. "At the waist of one of them was a small bronze buckle, less than an inch in diameter, to which some decayed substance resembling leather, still adhered. It was probably the fastening of a girdle. [This object is now in the Ashmolean Museum]. Not a vestige of any other relic was observed, nor could I learn that anything had been found previously. I am disposed to ascribe this and similar barrows to the Later Romano-British period."

These burials found by Akerman were clearly secondary interments of the Saxon period; similar secondary interments were found in the Lyneham barrow. There is no reason to doubt that this is a genuine Long Barrow.

*Arch.* xxxvii, p. 432. (Quoted above).

## HOAR STONE, ENSTONE

Oxfordshire, 21 N.W.      Parish of Enstone.      66\*.

Latitude 51° 54' 38".      Longitude 1° 27' 02".      Height above O.D. 537 feet.

The following account is given by Sir Henry Dryden (1897-8):—"This is seven miles S.E. from Rollrich. It is on elevated ground about a quarter of a mile S. of Enstone village at the crossing of the road between Tew and Charlbury with the road between Norton and Ditchley. . . . The dolmen is in a ruinous state. It consists of six stones, three standing and three prostrate." He gives the following dimensions:—

1. South stone, height, 9 ft. (5 ft. 5 ins. by 3 ft. 4 ins.)
2. West stone      „      4 ft. 10 ins. (4 ft. 10 ins. by 4 ft.)
3. North stone      „      3 ft. 3 ins. (but it was found to be 1 ft. in the earth, making its real height, 4 ft. 3 ins).

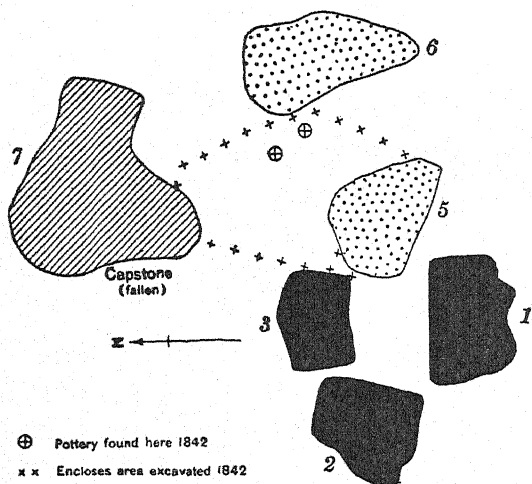
"These three bounded a chamber of about 5 ft. by 3 ft. 6 ins. The next stone on the E. (5) now prostrate, was no doubt a side stone, 5 ft.



## LONG BARROWS

2 ins. wide. Farther E. is a prostrate stone (6) 7 ft. 4 ins. by 4 ft., formerly upright. It is probable that the chamber had two stones forming the

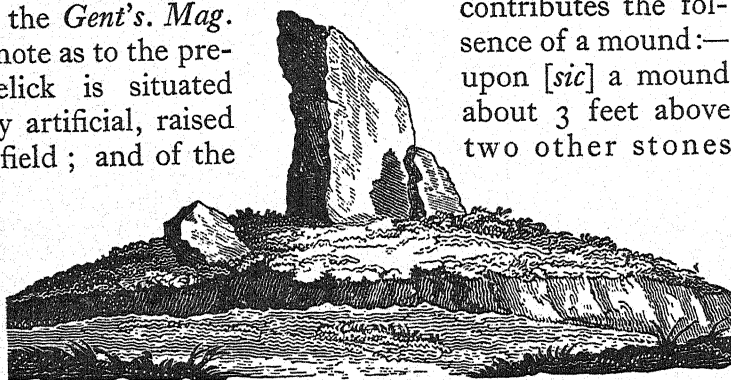
north side, two forming the south side, and one at each end, or possibly with the E. end walled up with smaller stones. To the N. of these stones, at 5 feet distance, a prostrate stone (7) 8 ft. 6 ins. by 8 ft. 6 ins., but of an irregular form and about 3 ft. thick, which was almost certainly a capstone, but has had a piece broken off it. . . . It is almost certain that the entrance was, as usual, at the E. A small excavation was made between the three prostrate stones from which fragments of pottery, apparently Roman, were obtained. . . . It is probable that the dolmens at



THE HOAR STONE, ENSTONE,  
after Sir Henry Dryden and W. C. Lukis, 1840.  
1:100

Rollrich and Enstone had entrance passages of at least 7 or 8 feet long decreasing in height and width towards the end. Assuming them to have been covered, the mounds were not less than 13 feet high in the middle and 40 feet in diameter."

The writer in the *Gent's Mag.* following interesting note as to the pre-  
"This ancient relick is situated of earth apparently artificial, raised the surface of the field; and of the that supported the cromlech, which are lying down at a short distance from it, one is partly buried under the soil."



THE HOAR STONE IN 1824,  
showing remains of mound.

## OXFORDSHIRE

It was visited October 19th, 1922. The monument stands in a dense thicket of hollies, in the angle between the road from Enstone to Taston (on the N.W.) and that from Enstone to Fulwell and Ditchley (on the E.) The whole monument is surrounded by a low modern wall, and though the tallest stone (No. 1) is only 9 yards from the middle of the road on the east, it is practically invisible to passers by. Stone No. 1 is being overgrown with ivy which should be destroyed. The measurements which I took are given for the sake of comparison with those of Sir Henry Dryden, whose figures are more likely to represent the true dimensions, as they were taken before the present overgrowth of vegetation. (My measurements of stones 1 and 2 are, however, worth recording for other reasons):—Stone 1: Height, 9 ft.; thickness, 4 ft. Stone 2: leans forward, *i.e.* eastward, and rests against stones 1 and 3; vertical height from top to ground below it, 4 ft. 6 ins; length (*i.e.* original height), 8 ft. Stone 3: height, 3 ft. The space between stones 1, 2 and 3, that is to say, the burial chamber itself, is piled with rubbish to a depth of two or three feet. There is no record of any excavation in this space, and while it seems unlikely that excavation or rifling should not have taken place there, it might be worth while clearing the area.

The monument is (after the Whispering Knights) the most perfect of its kind in the county and well deserves attention. The whole area should be cleared of all trees and vegetation; the ivy should be exterminated; the partially covered, fallen stones should be uncovered, and the original surface level laid bare. Expert advice should be taken as to the condition of stones 1 and 2 which appear to be in danger of falling. No action of any sort, however, should be taken without expert advice, preferably that of H.M. Inspector of Ancient Monuments at the Office of Works.

R. Plot. *Nat. Hist. of Oxfordshire*, 1705, p. 351.

Gough's *Camden*, 1789, I., 294.

Hearne's *Collections* (Oxf. Hist. Soc.) VIII., 269.

*Gent.'s Mag.*, xciv, 1824, 125 (woodcut, reproduced above).

J. Beesley. *History of Banbury*, 1841, 7-8.

W. C. Lukis. *Bircham Barrows*, 1843, 12.

*Arch.*, xxxvii., 433; XLII., 202.

*Oxfordshire Archæological Society*, Trans., 1899, 47-49. (Sir Henry Dryden).

*Lukis Collection* (MSS), Lukis Museum, Guernsey (Dryden's Plan, scale  $\frac{1}{48}$ ).

*Wilts. Arch. Soc.'s Library*, Devizes. Book of drawings and prints of megalithic monuments; catalogued N. fol. 72. Pen and ink sketches before the wood was planted.

## LONG BARROWS

### HOAR STONE

Oxfordshire, 25 N.W.      Parish of Langley.      123.

Latitude  $51^{\circ} 50' 44''$ .      Longitude  $1^{\circ} 33' 22''$ .      Height above O.D. 598 feet.

Sir Arthur Evans thus describes this stone :—"The Hoar Stone is not, as its name would seem to imply, a solitary block. It has another smaller one by its side, and in an old drawing preserved by Gough (in the Bodleian Library) a third is seen at right angles to this. It stands, or stood, by the remains of a mound, and was obviously a dolmen like the 'Whispering Knights.'" According to Akerman in 1858 it was "cracked in several places and doubtless doomed to perish." He shows it on his map as lying between Priest Grove and Farfield Corner, but I have doubts about the position given above being accurate.

Akerman's foreboding has proved only too true. There are no signs of the stone by the side of the road. Site visited October 24th, 1922.

*Arch.* xxxvii., 430, note. (J. Y. Akerman).

*Folklore*, vi., 1895, 10. (Sir Arthur Evans).

### HOAR STONE

Oxfordshire, 22 N.W.      Parish of Steeple Barton.      120.

Latitude  $51^{\circ} 55' 08''$ .      Longitude  $1^{\circ} 19' 29''$ .      Height above O.D. about 420 feet.

Mr. E. Thurlow Leeds, M.A., F.S.A., contributes the following note :—"According to Wing, a monument called the 'Hoar Stone,' originally consisting of 'two side-pieces and a lintel,' was destroyed at the end of the year 1843 ; but by order of the proprietor, Henry Hall, the pieces were collected and piled on the spot occupied by the monument. It stood on land belonging to Mr. Hall of Barton Abbey, Oxfordshire."

This account was verified by a visit (October 19th, 1922) which showed that the monument had been the remains of a chambered Long Barrow. The mound is still clearly visible, and was at least 50 feet long. At the eastern end is the pile of broken stones referred to by Wing. They are a reddish sandstone quite unlike the oolitic stone of which the more westerly Long Barrows are formed. The monument stands on high ground in a park and is under permanent grass. It would appear

## OXFORDSHIRE

to be the most easterly megalithic structure in Southern England, excepting the Kentish group. There are two pine trees growing on the mound.

W. Wing. *Antiquities of Steeple Aston*, 1845, 2.

*A.J.*, VI., 290.

*History of Enstone*, by the Rev. J. Jordan (1857).

## LYNEHAM BARROW

Oxfordshire, 20 S.W. Parish of Lyneham. 67\*.

Latitude 51° 53' 13". Longitude 1° 34' 04". Height above O.D. 610 feet.

The barrow is between 160 and 170 feet long and stands in two fields on the west side of the Chipping Norton and Burford main road (an ancient ridgeway). It is only a few yards from the road. A hedge and wall pass across the barrow from west to east. In the northern field, at the N.E. end of the barrow, stands a single upright stone, 6 feet high, 5 feet broad and 1 foot 6 inches thick. This stone is stated to be buried three feet deep in the ground, and its height is given by Conder as 10 feet 6 inches. When visited October 18th, 1922, a large piece of the top had been broken off, but replaced in position. This damage had evidently been done quite recently, probably during the summer of 1922. It has now been cemented in by Mr. Passmore. The long axis of the stone is east and west, and it probably originally formed part of a burial-chamber or portal. The barrow has been opened at several points, and remains of uprights are visible. The south end is the narrowest. There are no signs of a surrounding wall. The land on which it stands belongs—or belonged—to the Earl of Ducie. It is oriented N.N.E. and S.S.W.

It was excavated by Edward Conder, Junior, and Lord Moreton in 1894. The following summary of the results, based on the account published in *Proc. Soc. Ant.*, is contributed by Mr. E. Thurlow Leeds, M.A., F.S.A.:—"There were found (1) a chamber at right angles to the long axis of the barrow; on the south-eastern side of the barrow were two uprights, 4 feet 2 inches by 2 feet 10 inches, and 1 foot 9 inches by 2 feet 8 inches. At the north-western end of the chamber were two uprights, set with their long faces [edges?] abutting. On the surface-line at the level of the base of the barrow were traces of paving and frag-

## LONG BARROWS

ments of bone, pottery and charcoal. (2) Chamber, a little south of the south-east corner of No. 1, slightly above the ground level. It was formed of three uprights, on the north, east and west sides respectively, and a paving slab with a perforation 4 inches in diameter. At the north-eastern end of the barrow was a ridge of large 'rug' stones up to 8 feet long, 5 feet wide, and  $2\frac{1}{2}$  feet thick, terminating in a standing stone [that already described above and still standing] 10 feet 6 inches high, 5 feet 9 inches wide and between 13 and 18 inches thick, buried 3 feet below ground level. At the south west end was a standing-stone,  $4\frac{1}{2}$  feet by 3 feet by 11 inches thick, in a horizontal position lying east and west, 2 feet below the surface. At various points were found skulls and human and animal bones and hearths, with no indications of date, and (as secondary interments) two Saxon graves."

In the North field, in which the standing stone is situated, and about 100 yards due north of it, is another long mound which appears to be a Long Barrow. It is 30 paces long and highest and broadest at the northern end. It is very stony. Not far from it, between it and the stone, is an old quarry, covered with a dense thorny scrub, into which many mossy stones have been pitched, the remains, doubtless, of one or both barrows and their chambers.

*Proc. Soc. Ant.*, London, 2 S., xv., 1895, pp. 404-410. (Plan 1:192 and sections).

R. Plot. *Nat. Hist. of Oxfordshire*, 1705, 343.

Gough's *Camden*, I., 294.

*V.C.H., Oxfordshire*, II., 344.

## SLATEPITS COPSE

Oxfordshire, 25 N.E.

Parish of Wychwood.

68\*.

Latitude  $51^{\circ} 50' 44''$  Longitude  $1^{\circ} 31' 20''$  Height above O.D. a little over 500 feet.

The site of this Long Barrow was located on the map by me on October 24th, 1922. It lies in Slatepits Copse, in the S.E. quadrant, 66 paces E. of the main north and south ride, measured eastwards from a point in that ride 240 paces south of the inter-section of all four. It is 97 feet long (by tape) and about 6 feet high (by estimation), oriented approximately east and west. At the east end are three large stones No. 1 is 3 ft. 10 ins. high, 6 ft. 8 ins. wide and 8 ft. thick; No. 2 is 3 ft. 10 ins. high (sloping measurement) but actually the top is 2 ft. 9



## OXFORDSHIRE

ins. from the ground measured vertically; it is 6 ft. 6 ins. wide and about a foot or more thick. No. 3 is partially covered by moss and grass, but it appears to be about 4 ft. 7 ins. wide and is certainly as much as 2 ft. 6 ins. wide. It is still standing upright, but may have been broken off. No. 2 leans eastward, and is either a fallen lintel or the closing stone at the west end of a chamber, whose other stones are represented by Nos. 1 and 3. Nos. 1 and 3 are 4 ft. 10 ins. apart. The mound stands in a clearing in the wood and has small spindle bushes and bracken and a single oak tree growing on it. It has been dug into at a point immediately west of the chamber but not apparently to any depth, or elsewhere. It is well worth careful protecting. There are no signs of ditches. There is much black earth south of the west end. In *N.O.A.S.* it is said that three skulls were found in the chamber by the keeper who first discovered it. A rough plan with notes by the Rev. Charles Overy is preserved in the Ashmolean Museum, Oxford.

*V.C.H. Oxfordshire*, II., 344.

*Arch.*, XXXVII., 1857, 433.

*N.O.A.S.*, Feb. 9th, 1857, p. 4.

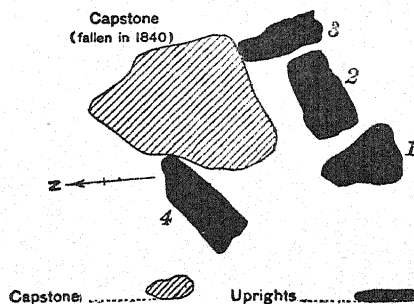
## THE WHISPERING KNIGHTS

Oxfordshire, 14 N.W. Parish of Little Rollright. 69\*.

Latitude  $51^{\circ} 58' 30''$ . Longitude  $1^{\circ} 33' 52''$ . Height above O.D. about 730 feet.

Stukeley in 1746 described the monument as follows:—" 'Tis composed of six stones, one broader for the back part, two and two narrower for the sides, set square to the former; and above all, as a cover, a still larger. The opening is full west, to the temple or Rowldrich. It stands on a round tumulus, and has a fine prospect south-westward down the valley, where the head of the Evenlode runs."

Sir Henry Dryden in 1897-8 described it as follows:—"About 356 yards E. from the [Rollrich] circle and S. of the road, is the dolmen about to be described, called 'The Five Whis-



THE WHISPERING KNIGHTS  
After Lukis and Dryden, 1840. 1:100

## LONG BARROWS

pering Knights.' It is in a ruinous state. It now consists of four stones, upright, or nearly so, and one prostrate, all of coarse limestone." He gives the following dimensions :—

- (1) Height, 8 ft. 3 ins. (4 ft. by 2 ft. 6 ins.)
- (2) „ 7 ft. 3 ins. (3 ft. 6 ins. by 1 ft. 10 ins.)
- (3) „ 6 ft. 7 ins. (3 ft. 8 ins. by 1 ft. 4 ins.)
- (4) „ 5 ft. 4 ins. (4 ft. 9 ins. by 2 ft.) Leaning.
- (5) Capstone (then fallen) 8 ft. 4 ins. by 5 ft. 9 ins., by 2 ft. 4 ins.

“The chamber appears to have been about 5 feet 6 inches W. and E., and the same N. and S. If, as usual, there was an entrance, with or without a passage, it was probably to the E.N.E. . . . There is not, so far as I know, any record of remains having been found in this dolmen. In a small stone pit about 700 feet N.E. by E. from the circle it is stated that 12 skulls were found in 1835. In another stone pit near it was found in 1836 an urn and beads, now in the Museum at Warwick, and at about 3 feet off was found a skeleton with which was a ring.”

Five stones are now visible. The whole monument is surrounded by an iron railing and is under the protection of the Ancient Monuments Board. It is clearly a burial-chamber, but whether Stukeley was correct in assuming the covering mound to have been *round* is very doubtful. He is wrong in describing the stones as standing *on* the mound. They are clearly fixed in the natural surface of the earth, as may also be seen from his illustration, made when the mound was still visible. The field in which they stand was enclosed in Stukeley's time, and the mound, from long cultivation, has now almost completely disappeared.

R. Plot. *Nat. Hist. of Oxfordshire*, 1677. Plate XVI. (View).

W. Stukeley, *Abury*, 1746, 13.

*Folklore*, VI., 1895, pp. 1 seq. (Sir Arthur Evans).

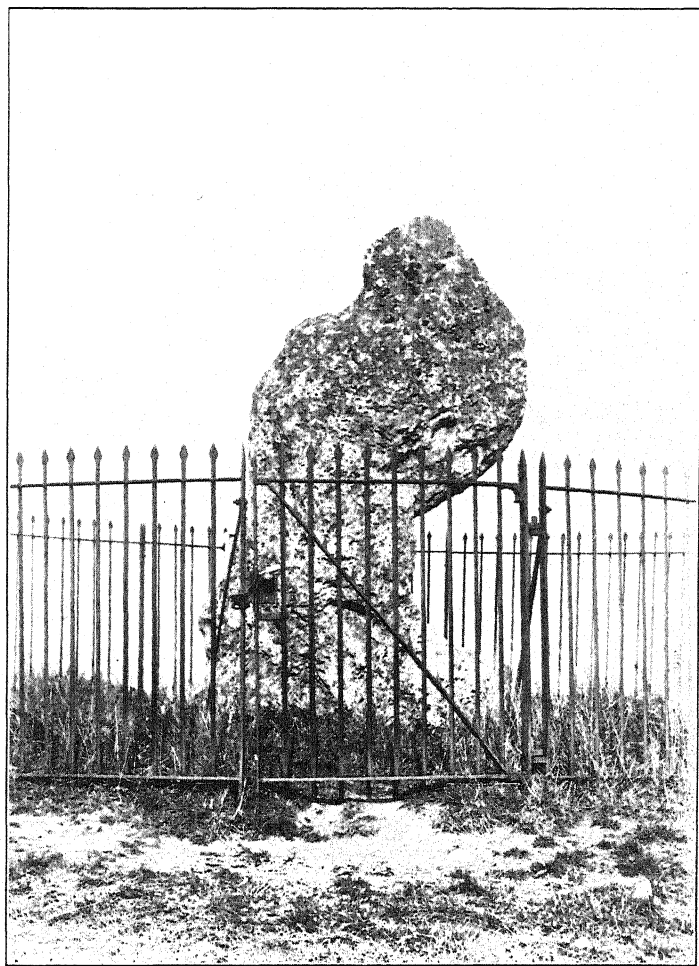
*Report of the Oxfordshire Archaeological Society* for 1897-8. (Banbury, 1899), pp. 46-7. (Plan by Sir Henry Dryden ; original, or a copy, in the Lukis Collection, Lukis Museum, Guernsey).

## THE KING STONE

Warwickshire, 59 N.W. Parish of Long Compton. 70\*.

Latitude 51° 58' 33". Longitude 1° 34' 07". Height above O.D. about 740 feet.

Stukeley's account of this stone and the Long Barrow adjacent to it is as follows :—“To the north-east [of the circle at Rollright] is a



THE KING STONE, Rollright



## WARWICKSHIRE

great tumulus or barrow of a long form, which I suppose to have been of an Arch-Druid. Between it and our temple [the circle] is a huge stone standing upright, called the 'King Stone'; the stone is 8 foot high, and 7 broad, which together with the barrow, may be seen in Tables III., v., but the barrow has had much dug away from it. 'Tis now above 60 foot in length, 20 in breadth, flattish at top. I know not whether there were more stones standing originally about this barrow. . . ."

Doubts have been cast upon this explanation, but a visit of inspection on November 24th, 1920 made it seem quite certain that Stukeley was correct in regarding the mound as a Long Barrow. The deep trench between the mound and the road which has puzzled antiquaries is a disused quarry. It was probably not in existence in Stukeley's time, nor is it shown on any of his Plates. Similar old quarries appear by the side of the road in the adjacent fields.

'The stone is under the protection of the Ancient Monuments Branch. It may be the remains of a row surrounding the Long Barrow; or more probably, one of the uprights of a side-chamber approached from without. In support of the latter suggestion, made here for the first time, I would call attention to the semi-circular hollow or notch which can be seen in the accompanying photograph on the right hand side of the stone. This recalls the similar notches in the pairs of uprights mounted in front of the chambers at Belas Knap, Rodmarton, Norn's Tump and elsewhere.

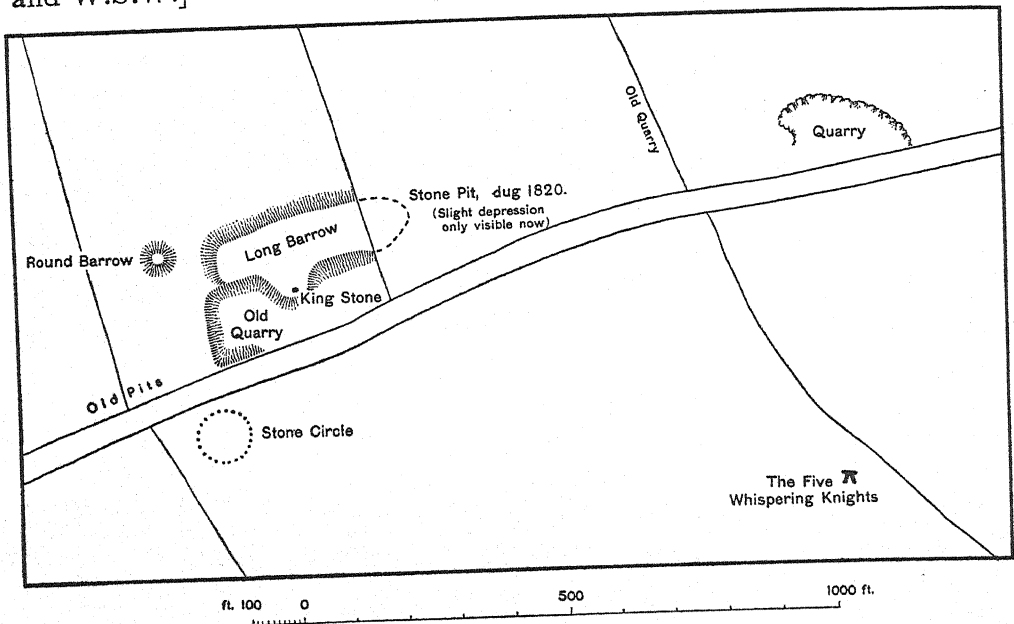
A good deal of folklore will be found in Sir Arthur Evans' paper.

[Since the above account was written a plan has been discovered in the Lukis Museum, Guernsey, which fully corroborates it. The excavation between the Long Barrow and the road is definitely called "Stone Pit," proving that in 1840, when the plan was made by Sir Henry Dryden and the Rev. W. C. Lukis, it was still being worked, or at any rate that there was then no doubt as to its character. At the west end of the barrow is marked a round barrow almost touching it. At the east end is a "stone pit dug 20 years ago," *i.e.*, in 1820. The dimensions of the King Stone itself, as given on this plan, are :—Height 8 feet 2 inches ; width, E. and W., 5 feet, N. and S. 1 foot 3 inches. On the drawing another stone is marked, but in buff colour, which according to Lukis's system, indicates that it was not erect. This stone touches



## LONG BARROWS

the N.E. side of the King Stone, and is about 2 feet by 1 foot in size. The orientation of the Long Barrow would appear to be E.N.E. and W.S.W.]



THE ANCIENT REMAINS AT ROLLRIGHT.

R. Plot. *Nat. Hist. of Oxfordshire*, 1677, Plate XVI. (view).

W. Stukeley, *Abury*, 1746, p. 10 (quoted above).

*Folklore*, Vol. VI., 1895, pp. 1, seq.

W. Stukeley, *Commonplace Book*, now in the Library of the Wiltshire Archæological Society at Devizes, fol. 84. (Letter to him from Roger Gale, dated Sept., 1719).

## WILTSHIRE

### GIANT'S CAVE

Wiltshire, 12 N.W.

Parish of Luckington.

78\*.

Latitude 51° 32' 41". Longitude 2° 15' 34". Height above O.D. about 370 feet.

Mrs. Cunnington (in *W.A.M.*, xxxviii), gives the following account: "Length, 123 feet (present measurement, but no doubt longer originally) E. and W.; chambered. Apparently rifled at some unknown period [but see extracts below] and the cists or chambers left uncovered. This barrow now appears as a mere untidy shapeless heap in a grass field, covered with bushes. There are several large stones placed edgewise, half buried in the ground, that appear to be the ruins of at least three chambers; one of these, oblong in shape, seems to be fairly complete except for any covering stones it may have had."

Aubrey says:—"This barrow. . . is long, and some oakes and other trees and boscage cover it. Here were accidentally discovered since the year 1646 certain small caves about 5 or 6 in number; they were about fower foot in heighth and 7 or 8 foot long; being floared, lined and rooft with great plank-stones which are plentiful hereabout. I saw them 1659." After this Aubrey gives a quotation from J. Childrey's *Britannia Baconica* (1661), p. 45, explaining that Childrey was "his lordship's chaplain" presumably the Duke of Beaufort's. The caves number about nine "and some of them are (or were formerly) cemented with lime. . . . The manner of them is two long stones set up on their sides, and broad stones upon the top to cover them. The least of these caves is four foot broad, and some of them are nine or ten foot long. . . The curiosity of some ingenious men (as it is reported) within these 40 yeares tempted them to dig into it. . . but they found nothing but an old spur and some few other things not worth the mentioning." . . .

Britton says:—"In 1809 another barrow was levelled and found to contain the remains of several human skeletons." Can this refer to the tumulus marked on the O.S. maps on the opposite side of the valley, immediately to the S.E. of the Giant's Cave? There is now no evidence of a mound, and in 1913 Mrs. Cunnington reported that "nothing but a slight natural inequality of surface" could be seen.

This barrow (78) was accidentally omitted from the map and list in the Professional Paper (Sheet 8). Visited January, 1924.

Aubrey, *Monumenta Britannica* (MS in Bodleian, never published in full), fol. 60.

J. Childrey, *Britannia Baconica*, 1661, p. 45.

Britton's *Wilts.*, Vol. III., 1825, p. 142.

*Wilts. Arch. Mag.*, VII., 323; xxxviii, 1913-14, p. 394 (quoted above).



# STONE CIRCLES





## STONE CIRCLE — MONMOUTHSHIRE

### GRAY HILL

Monmouthshire, 30 N.W. Parish of Llanvair-discoed. 71\*.

Latitude  $51^{\circ} 38' 14''$ . Longitude  $2^{\circ} 48' 44''$ . Height above O.D. about 820 feet.

Mrs. Bagnall-Oakeley's account is as follows:—" . . . The remains of a stone circle 32 feet in diameter, which probably surrounded a large cairn of stones or barrow of earth; the stones which compose it are set on their edge, and are about 2 feet high, almost touching each other where none have been removed. Of these there are only 13 stones now remaining, several having been removed since the sketch on Plate VII. was done. (The plan shows the circle as it is at present). Inside the circle, not in the centre but on the S.E. side, are two stones, probably the remains of the burial-chamber. . . . The largest of these is 6 feet 6 inches high, 3 feet 7 inches wide, and 1 foot 7 inches thick; [*now fallen.—O.G.S.C.*], the other stone has been broken off at about 2 feet from the ground. Eight feet outside the circle on the S.E. side stands another large stone, 5 feet 9 inches high, 3 feet 1 inch broad, and 1 foot 8 inches thick. . . . At about the distance of 60 yards in a N.W. direction and visible from the circle, stands a large mænhir [Lat.  $51^{\circ} 38' 16''$ ; Long.  $2^{\circ} 48' 46''$ ] 7 feet 6 inches high. (Plate IV)." Visited August 26th, 1921.

*Rude Stone Monuments in Monmouthshire*, p. 17, Plates IV and VII (sketches) and Plate VI. (plan).

### THE WHETSTONES

Montgomeryshire, 31 S.E. Parish of Churchstoke. 72\*.

Latitude  $52^{\circ} 34' 17''$ . Longitude  $3^{\circ} 01' 39''$  Height above O.D. about 1110 feet.

The following account is copied from the *Report of the Royal Commission on Ancient Monuments in Wales*, County of Montgomery, 1911, p. 23, No. 116:—

"Owner, the Earl of Powis, Powis Castle, Welshpool; occupier, Mr. Jacob Ellis. At the foot of the northern slope of Corndon Hill, and close to a stile on the south side of the road near the turning to Cliffdale mine. It is certain that at this place there once stood a circle of eight or nine stones. An intelligent man, named John Jones, aged 74 years, and a resident in the vicinity since his youth, remembers four stones arranged

## STONE CIRCLES

as though forming parts of a circle, with an appendage of four or five other stones extending in a curve "like a hook." About 100 yards distant was a cairn, the foundation of which is still discernible. The land was then unenclosed, but on its enclosure the cairn and the circle were rifled to provide stone for the construction of the existing fence. Mr. Jones pointed out the four stones which had been members of the circle. The Rev. C. Hartshorne's account of this circle in *Salopia Antiqua*, 1841, p. 33, gives a slightly different account of the stones. He observes "These three stones [the Whetstones] were formerly placed upright though they now lean, owing to the soft and boggy nature of the soil. They stand equidistant and assume a circular position. . . . The highest of these is 4 feet above the surface; 1 foot 6 inches in thickness; and 3 feet in width." Only one stone is now to be found, embedded in the ground close to the stile entering the field, and this is so small that it is not likely to have formed one of the stones of the circle, or it must be a mere fragment of a larger mass. . . . Visited August 20th, 1909."

## KERRY HILL

Montgomeryshire, 44 S.W.

Parish of Kerry.

73\*.

Latitude 52° 28' 56".

Longitude 3° 14' 24".

Height above O.D. about 1500 feet.

The following account is copied from the *Report of the Royal Commission on Ancient Monuments in Wales*, County of Montgomery, 1911, p. 54, item No. 282) :—

"Owners, the legal representatives of the late Mr. John Naylor, Leighton Hall. A circle of eight stones with a central stone, standing 200 yards almost direct South from the tumulus called Shenton's Tump, No. 274. The plan in *Mont. Coll.*, 1889, xxiii., 82, shows the arrangement of the stones." Visited June 30th, 1909.

"The account just referred to mentions a second circle distant from the above 'in a straight line about three or four hundred yards,' apparently in a north-easterly direction, towards the house called 'Kerry Pole.' A diligent search quite failed to locate it, and inquiries from local antiquaries and sportsmen have been fruitless. As the stones may be visible in early spring the following account of the circle is quoted from the above-mentioned source. It 'has only six stones remaining, [and] is suggestive of having once been a circle. This is indicated by a central

## OXFORDSHIRE

stone, and the position and distance of three others. The remaining ones are thrown out of the circle, all of which are at irregular distances the one from the other, being as follows: 23 feet, 20 feet 4 inches, 18 feet, 54 feet 6 inches, 19 feet, etc., respectively.' "

## CORNWELL CIRCLE

Oxfordshire, 14 N.W.

Parish of Cornwell.

73a.

Latitude  $51^{\circ} 57' 14''$  Longitude  $1^{\circ} 36' 47''$  Height above O.D., about 720 feet.

This barrow-circle was re-discovered by me, October 26th, 1922. Its existence had previously been known, and Sir Arthur Evans briefly refers to it in his "Folklore" article. It was not however, marked on the map. I discovered it by noticing a grey stone peering out of a clump of bushes and pine trees as I was bicycling along the ridgeway to Rollright. The circle lies in a ploughed field 60 yards north of the road from Adlestrop Station to the Rollright Circle. It is overgrown with brambles, elder, hazel and blackthorn; four large trees also grow on it, three pines (one dead) and an ash. For this reason it was not possible for me to make a plan, and even these notes could only be put together with difficulty. The circles consist of three or four apparently complete rings of large stones, some standing, some lying (but probably not *fallen*), and mostly inclined inwards. Many of them are of such a character that it is not easy to say whether they are standing or fallen; they appear to be jumbled together, but the circular arrangement is clear and the central enclosed space contains no stones at all. Some measurements taken at haphazard of some of the stones give the following figures:—A. Length, 6ft. 10 ins. B. (next to it on E.) Length, 5 ft. 8 ins.; Height 1 ft. 6 ins. C. Height, 2 ft. 9 ins. D. Height, 2 ft. 10 ins. E. Length, 5 ft. 6 ins. F. Height, 2 ft. 6 ins. G. Length, 7 ft.; Height 2 ft. 9 ins. H. Length, 8 ft.; Height, 3 ft. The diameter from the outside of the stones on the south to the outside on the north, measured with the tape, is about 70 feet. It is impossible to measure the elevation of the mound on account of the undergrowth, but it can hardly be more than two or three feet at the most. There are no signs of any stone, pit or disturbance at the centre. The mound appears certainly to be continued westwards in the arable for a distance of at least 34 paces, measured from the western edge of the clump in which the circles are placed. This mound, which resembles that of a Long Barrow, is oriented  $45^{\circ}$  E. of magnetic north

## STONE CIRCLES

(26-X-1922). The total length of the mound, from S.W. to N.E. is at least 65 paces. There is little sign of any mound *east* of the circles.

I was at first inclined to think that this might be one of those described by Stukeley, but its position does not agree with any of these.

In the next field to the north-east lies a prostrate stone, 6 ft. 7 ins. long, 2 ft. 3 ins. wide in the middle and 2 ft. thick near the base (which is covered with small stones). It lies in a ploughed field, but a cigar-shaped island of turf has been left unploughed on account of it. There are many loose stones, and nettles growing round it. The stone lies approximately east and west. There are no signs of a mound, but there appears to be a small round tump 50 paces to the N.E. Both lie exactly on the summit of the ridge.

## ROLLRIGHT STONES (KING'S MEN)

Oxfordshire, 14 N.W.

Parish of Little Rollright.

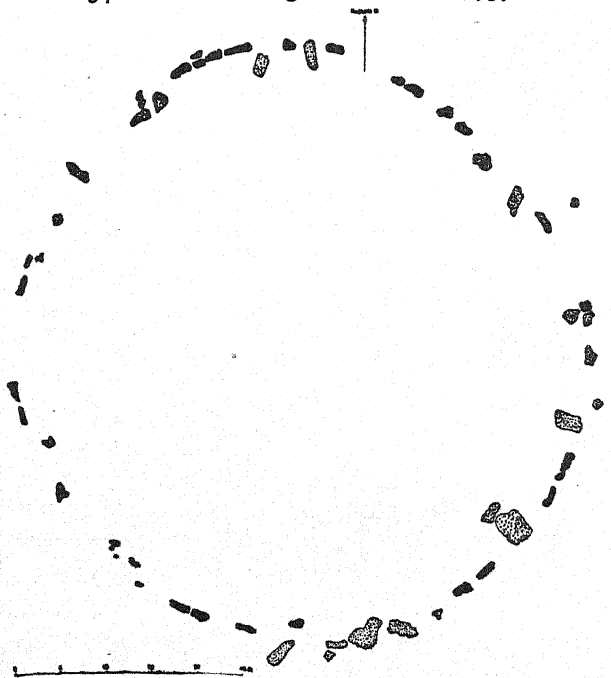
74\*.

Latitude  $51^{\circ} 58' 31''$ .

Longitude  $1^{\circ} 34' 10''$ .

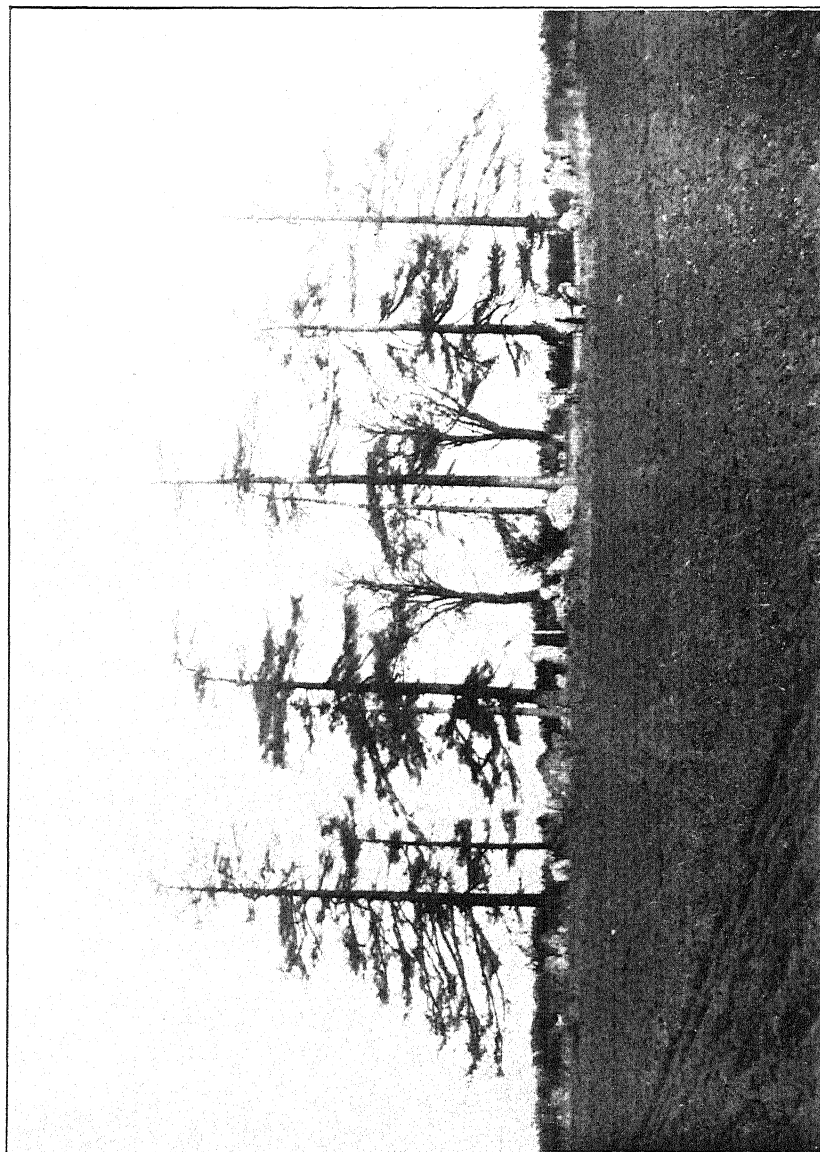
Height above O.D., 737 feet.

The stones stand on the south side of the road which forms the boundary between Warwickshire and Oxfordshire. The earliest mention of the stones is that quoted in T. Hearne's Edition of Robert of Gloucester's Chronicle (1724, Vol. II. 578):—"Sunt magni lapides in Oxenfordensi pago, manu hominum quasi sub quadam connectione dispositi, set a quo tempore, vel a qua gente, vel ad quid memorandum vel signandum factum fuerit, ignoratur. Ab incolis autem vocatur locus ille ROLLENDRYCH." They and the other stone monu-



THE ROLLRIGHT STONES

Surveyed by Sir Henry Dryden and the Rev. W. C. Lukis,  
April, 1840. 1:400



THE ROLLRIGHT STONES



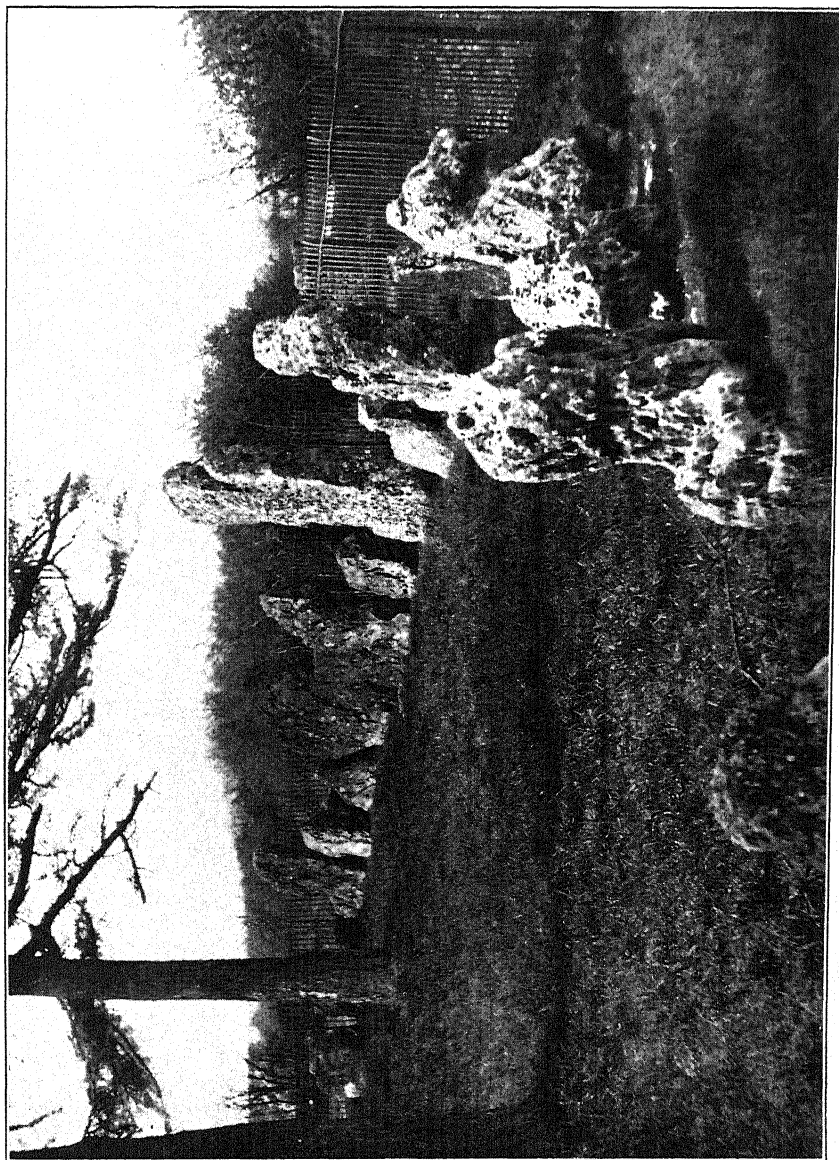
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THE ROLLRIGHT STONES



## RADNORSHIRE

ments in the immediate vicinity have been so fully described elsewhere that it must be enough to give a reference to such sources, the most important of which is Sir Arthur Evans' article in *Folklore*. Another later plan made by H. Hurst is published with this article. The circle is under the protection of the Ancient Monuments Branch and is surrounded by an iron railing. The diameter varies between 100 and 113 feet. Visited November 24th, 1920.

*Folklore*, Vol. VI., 1895, pp. 1, seq.

*Gough's Camden*, I., 294, II., 13.

R. Plot, *Nat. Hist. of Oxfordshire*, 1677, pp. 336 seq. (View on Plate XVI.)

W. Stukeley, *Abury*, 1746, p. 10.

*Hearne's Collections* (Oxf. Hist. Soc.), VIII, 113.

J. Skelton, *Oxfordshire* (Chadlington Hundred), p. 14.

*N. Oxfordshire Arch. Soc. Trans.*, 1853-5, pp. 61-73 (Thos. Beesley; small sketch-plan of district and illustrations of finds, probably Anglo-Saxon, made near by.)

## GELLI HILL

Radnorshire, 28 N.E. (but the co-ordinates given below place it on  
28 N.W.) Parish of Bettws Diserth. 75\*.

Latitude 52° 12' 59". Longitude 3° 19' 29". Height above O.D. about 1300 feet?

The following account is taken from the *Report of the Royal Commission* (Report on County Radnor, 1913, item 41 B, pp. 12, 13 [plan, fig. 9] .)

"About one mile to the north-east of Upper Gilwern Farm, and just north of the trackway from Gelli Hill to Gilwern Hill, are the remains of a circle, the stones of which are disappearing beneath the surface, and, doubtless in consequence, not marked upon the Ordnance Sheet [second edition of 1905]. The most prominent stone now visible above the grass stands 21 inches out of the ground, three or four others are easily discovered, the remainder are level with the turf. Eleven stones can be counted, and by probing a short depth below the surface, one other stone can be located, making a total of twelve stones in the circle. Beginning with the highest stone and proceeding eastwards, the distances between the visible stones are 15, 18, 15, 9, 15, 30, 18, 15, 15 and 12 feet. At a distance of 100 yards to the north-west is a stone, now prostrate, which



## STONE CIRCLES

when upright must have stood about 5 feet high. The circle is placed on a small plateau, and 400 yards to the south-east, at the highest point of Gelli Hill, is the cairn (No. 41 A). Visited April 2nd, 1913."

The following is contributed by Lieut.-Col. W. Ll. Morgan, R.E., one of the Commissioners :—

"A stone circle situated on a small col across the Gelli Hill ; there is consequently higher ground to the east and west, with breaks to the north and south, but the view is limited by distant hills of about the same size as the Gelli. The circle consists of eleven stones, with a doubtful twelfth on the circumference of a circle of 68 feet diameter. The circle is, however, somewhat irregular, probably due to the fallen stones (three only are standing) being now covered more or less with turf and soil, leaving only a small portion exposed, which it is now impossible to identify as the top, middle or bottom. The western half, of nine stones, is fairly complete ; but of the eastern half two stones only are *in situ*, and these are doubtful, there being a large gap where the stones are either missing or buried under the turf."

After giving measurements of each stone, Colonel Morgan continues :—"On the southern slope of the rising ground 100 yards to the west is a fallen pointer. The stone is 5 ft. 6 ins. by 4 ft., tapering to 1 ft. 6 ins., and 1 ft. thick. It is evidently not *in situ*, so that its azimuth, N. 95°-30° W. is of no consequence.

"400 yards to the east is cairn No. 41A. Owing, however, to the rise of the ground, the cairn cannot be seen from the circle. It would have to be 10 to 15 ft. higher before this would be the case, and although it is now much mined it is almost impossible that it could have been of this height, and consequently it may be assumed to have had no connection with the circle. Its azimuth, S. 82° E. is inexplicable."

Visited July 10th, 1913.

## FEDW

Radnorshire, 28 N.E.      Parish of Glaschw.      76\*.

Latitude 52° 12' 46".      Longitude 3° 15' 15".      Height above O.D. 870 feet.

The following account is taken from the *Report of the Royal Commission* (Report on County of Radnor, 1913, item 189, pp. 49-51 [plans Fig. 27]) :—



## RADNORSHIRE

"A stone circle, standing upon a slight elevation, but surrounded by marshy ground between the small stream of the Edwy and a nameless tributary.

"The first notice of what must have been a very fine circle appears to have been taken by Edward Lhuyd who, writing about 1698, and probably from actual inspection of the circle, observes (*Parochialia*, III, 159):—'On Rhos near Vedw in Glascwm parish, Radnorshire: 36 stones in a circular order, about 3 or 4 disordered, from east to west about 23 paces; from north to south about the same; in circumference about 73 paces.' Lhuyd's note is appended to a rough drawing which unfortunately is not oriented.

"The only notice taken of the circle by the historian of the county is the following :—'In a piece of land named Rhôs y merch [*sic*] is a small portion of ground encircled with large coarse stones placed erect in the earth. This had been a cairn constructed for druidic or bardic purposes.' [*Hist. Radnorshire*, ed. 1905, p. 318].

"A brief account of the monument appears in *Archæologia Cambrensis* for 1860 (III., VI., 21), where the circle is stated to be 237 feet in circumference, and to have 37 stones *in situ*. An excellent plan accompanies the paper, and is here reproduced side by side with a copy of Lhuyd's drawing."

The following is contributed by Lieut.-Col. W. Ll. Morgan, R.E., one of the Commissioners :—"This circle has, within the remembrance of the present generation, been practically ruined. There is ample evidence to show that about 30 years ago, many stones were removed from the circumference of the circle and some also which stood outside (on account of their being obstacles to the plough) which were placed in groups in their present positions; and others were broken up. It is impossible now to be satisfied that any particular stone is actually *in situ*. One informant stated that four stones were removed from some distance outside the circle. If this were the case, the destruction is more to be deplored, as these might have afforded invaluable evidence as to the orientation of these monuments. The impossibility of identifying any of the stones shown on Lhuyd's very rude plan with those of the present circle clearly proves that the alterations made 30 years ago were so great as to destroy its interest as an historical monument. I am of opinion, however, that the spade would discover which of the stones are

## STONE CIRCLES

*in situ*, and if the extraneous ones were removed the monument may be restored to something like its original condition. At present little more than the diameter, 80 feet, and the position of the centre are of any real importance.

"The stones are all water worn trap boulders, such as apparently were at one time fairly numerous over the whole neighbourhood, but owing to the demand for building purposes they have mostly been removed."

After giving a detailed account of the stones Colonel Morgan continues :—"It will be seen that the stones vary very much in size, but possibly what now appears the smallest may (from the accumulations of soils round them, due to the effect of existent ploughing) be in reality as large as any of the others.

"On the southern slope of Llandegley Rhos, half a mile north of the circle, is a large Maenhir evidently placed there by the hand of man. The azimuth of the line from the centre of the circle is N. 10° W.

"Another very fine boulder on the low ground 670 yards from the circle, azimuth N. 28' 30" E.

"Both of these are so far to the north that they could have no reference to the sun, and are so distant that they could hardly have been used under any circumstances for sighting purposes.

"The last stone, which is on the boundary line between the parishes of Glascwm and Llanfihangel Nant Melan, is a very conspicuous object from the circle ; its dimensions are : 8 ft. by 6 ft. by 2 ft. 6 ins. to 3 ft. The stone has several drill holes in it, and the commissioners were informed it had been intended to blast it, but the landlord interfered, and at the same time stopped the destruction of the circle."

## SIX STONES

Radnorshire, 33 N.W.      Parish of Bryngwyn.      77\*.

Latitude 52° 9' 24".      Longitude 3° 13' 25".      Height above O.D. about 1600 feet ?

The following account is taken from the *Report of the Royal Commission* (Report on County of Radnor, 1913, item 65, p. 19 [plan, fig. 12] ) :

## RADNORSHIRE

" Owner, Mr. W. Mortimer Baylis, The Old Court, Whitney, Herefordshire ; occupier, Mr. Lewis Richards, Upper Glasnant.

" A small circle consisting of at least 12 stones standing upon the boundary of the parishes of Bryngwyn and Glascwm. The site is within a few yards of the source of the little stream called the Glasnant, the banks of which rise sharply about 20 feet to fairly level ground. The circle is difficult of discovery, as the stones are small and stand only from six to twelve inches above the soil, and the ground is overgrown with heather. The most noticeable stones are upon a direct magnetic north and south line, with an intervening space of 29 yards [the diameter of the circle], and from them the remaining perceptible stones of the circle can be located. It is probable that all the stones of the circle could be recovered by careful probing. Visited November 16th, 1912."



# MOUNDS, STANDING STONES AND OTHER OBJECTS

[This class includes objects, which may be the remains of Long Barrows or Stone Circles, or which might be mistaken for such. Many of the objects described under this heading are of purely natural origin.]





## MOUNDS, STANDING STONES, Etc.

### SCARY HILL

Berkshire, 19 N.E.      Parish of Sparsholt.      79.

Latitude  $51^{\circ} 33' 27''$ .    Longitude  $1^{\circ} 31' 42''$ .    Height above O.D. about 550 feet.

In a ploughed field on the eastern side of Scary Hill is a long mound which may be the remains of a Long Barrow ploughed flat. It lies a little to the west of the road to Kingston Lisle. It is oriented S. by E. and N. by W. The length is about 240 feet. It is higher and broader at the southern end. Only excavation could show whether it is a natural or artificial mound. First observed May 15th, 1921; inspected September 18th, 1921.

### KING'S STONE

Brecknockshire, 28 N.W.      Parish of Llan-y-wern.      79a.

Latitude  $51^{\circ} 57' 50''$ .    Longitude  $3^{\circ} 19' 41''$ .    Height above O.D., a little more than 1000 feet.

An outcrop of hard rock with an east and west strike occurs on the hill south of Pen-yr-allt Farm. One of the tabular masses has become detached from the main mass and overhangs the small cliff here formed. It is purely natural. Visited August 1st, 1921.

It seems not improbable that this is the "cromlech" referred to by Theophilus Jones in a footnote:—"There is a small cromlech on this farm [not quoted, but either Trawstre, Waun-y-Mynach or Llwyn-yr-Eida], not far from the south-western extremity of the common called Waun-y-Geifr." Mr. Evan Morgan of Brecon has visited this stone and reports it to be about 14 ft. by 10 ft. by  $2\frac{1}{2}$  ft. He adds:—"It is in the parish of Llanywern and might be described as somewhere on the southern border of the common."

A correspondent in the *Brecon County Times* (Sept. 22nd, 1921) says that it was formerly a rocking stone. The stone is on Trawstre Farm. Waun-y-Geifr common is not marked on the present Ordnance Maps, but is shown on the MS 2 in. edition of 1814 when it was bounded by the following farms in Llanfillo parish [O.S. 6 in., Sheet 28 N.E.]:—Twyn-yr-odyn, Gilwern (north of house), Hollybush Farm, Court-y-plyfyn (B.M. 668), Garn Galed and Pantau.

## MOUNDS, STANDING STONES, ETC.

Mr. Evan Morgan has given great assistance in solving the puzzle presented by this statement of Theophilus Jones.

Theophilus Jones, *Hist. of the County of Brecknock*, Vol. II., Part. 2, p. 561, Note.

### MAEN ILLTYD

Brecknockshire, 34 N.E.      Parish of Llanhamlach?      80.

In Gough's *Camden* the following passage occurs:—"Within a few paces of it [Ty Illtyd] was a circle of stones called Maen Iltud ; some of which remained in Mr. Lhuyd's time." Careful search was made for remains of this circle but not a vestige of it could be found. It is not improbable that it was really not a circle but the peristalith or row of stones encircling the mound. Such stones would quite naturally be mistaken for a circle in the days of Lhuyd before the characteristic features of chambered Long Barrows were recognised. On the engraved edition of the 1 in. map [1832] "Maen Illtid" is marked (by a triangular symbol) in Old English characters on the site occupied by Ty Illtyd.

### BANBURY STONE

Gloucestershire, 5 S.E.      Parish of Kemerton.      80a.

Latitude 52° 3' 36".      Longitude 2° 3' 48".      Height above O.D. about 970 feet.

The following account is given by Allies :—

"It stands within about forty yards of the S.W. end of the inner vallum or trench of the camp [on Bredon Hill], and near a tower or prospect house, which was built in modern times upon the summit of the hill. It is situated a little within the entrance of an oblong basin or amphitheatre, near the western focus of the ellipse, and is about twenty yards in circumference, four yards high and nearly flat at the top. The basin resembles a dry dock with its entrance upon the verge of the precipice of the hill, and is about two hundred yards in circumference. The stone, at several miles' distance, looks something like the hull of a ship coming out of dock. I have no doubt that this basin is artificial, and that the earth and stones excavated were applied towards forming the inner agger of the camp, which is high and wide, and would take more

## GLOUCESTERSHIRE

materials in the making than could be obtained out of the . . . . Trench. There are also traces of very considerable excavations in the ground between the outer and inner vallum, at the south-east corner; the materials from which were no doubt used for the above-mentioned purpose. The stone is a mass of inferior oolite, the same as the rest of the hill, and no doubt was denuded upon the basin being dug. . . . At a distance of about six yards before it, westward, nearer the precipice, there is another stone about eleven yards in circumference, and two yards above the surface; and about sixteen yards further westward, at the precipice, is a third stone, about ten yards in circumference and two yards high. The former of these two stones was probably disturbed at the time of the excavation, as the stratification is nearly vertical; and the other either appears to have been moved to the very edge of the precipice (down which it seems on the point of rolling into Worcestershire), or the earth has, in the course of ages, fallen away from before it down the precipice and left it upon the brink. There is also another stone, behind and to the east of the Banbury Stone, which measures about eight yards in circumference. All these stones are nearly in a line with each other, and stand in an easterly and westerly direction; the one on the brink stands on or near to the site of the ancient granary." [Some charred wheat was found here after a landslip at the beginning of the 19th century. It was probably a store such as has frequently been met with in the excavation of Early Iron Age camps. A full account is given by Allies, pp. 78-84].

"Laird . . . . describing this stone, says:—'Near the Prospect House is Bramsbury Stone, an immense mass of rock, but of which there is no traditionary account; and which is, most likely, merely a natural production, without any reference to ancient events.'

"In Derham's 'Physico-theology' the camp is called Bemsbury Camp.

"In Nash's plan of the camp it is called Bembury Stone, and in the plan in the second edition of Gough's Camden, Bunbury Stone; but neither of these authors take any further notice of it. In Greenwood's Map, dated 1820 and 1821, it is called Bambury Stone, and in the Ordnance Map, Banbury Stone.

"Dr. Nash, in his plan [reproduced by Allies on p. 365] only noticed the principal stone, and placed it on the brink of the precipice. Neither has he represented the hollow basin in which the stone stands."

## MOUNDS, STANDING STONES, Etc.

The stone is clearly of natural origin and is perhaps residual, the result of quarrying around it ; but I have not seen it myself. The name "Banbury" is clearly the original name of the camp. In Birch. Cart. Sax. I., No. 232 (an original charter of A.D. 778-9) the following reference to it occurs :—"Breodun, in cuius cacumine urbs est antiquo nomine BÆNINTESBURG"—Breodun, on whose summit is a city with the ancient name of [perhaps "formerly called "] Bænintesburg. The name Breodun probably represents a Celtic \*Brigodunon ; but it is possible that the second half of the word is the O.E. *dune* and not Celtic *dunon*. Whether this be so or not, the first part is certainly the Celtic *briga* the equivalent of the O.E. *burh*, a fortified place.

Jabez Allies ; *The British, Roman and Saxon Antiquities and Folklore of Worcestershire* ; second edition, 1856, pp. 363-5.

Laird, *Topographical and Historical Description of Worcestershire*, p. 364.

Derham, *Physico-theology*, p. 70.

## BLACKHEDGE FARM "STONE CIRCLES"

Gloucestershire, 34 N.E.      Parish of Leckhampton.      81.

Height above O.D. Between 700 and 800 foot contours.

These remains, described as "Stone Circles" on the Ordnance Map, 1703 edition, are without the least doubt of recent origin. The stones are simply boulders which have fallen from the face of the steep cliff above. Only in one case is there any approximation at all to a circular arrangement ; and this would probably disappear if a large scale plan were made. What has occurred is quite clear. Part of the clayey slope on which they stand has at no very distant date been brought under cultivation by the occupants of the small holding by the spring immediately below. (The foundations of the house can still be traced). The plough-ridges are quite clearly visible in the grass field. Of course ploughing was almost impossible if large boulders lay about, and they were therefore pushed out of the way to the edge of the cultivated patch. There they now stand ; and it can be observed that the plough-ridges end where the stones lie., *i.e.*, at the edge of that particular patch. The stones therefore are arranged round a *rectangular* area ; but being comparatively few in number, it is possible, with the aid of a strong imagination and no plan, to look on them as remains of a disturbed stone circle.



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The other stones described as circles are few in number and make no approach to circular arrangement.

The site is *a priori* an extremely unlikely one. Visited December 20th, 1920.

### BRIERY HILL MOUND

Gloucestershire, 34 S.E.      Parish of Brimpsfield.      82.

Latitude  $51^{\circ} 49' 13''$ .      Longitude  $2^{\circ} 04' 47''$ .      Height above O.D., 800 feet.

In hamlet of Nettleton, near the "Golden Hart." Not marked by Writts.

It stands in a fir copse and is fairly thickly overgrown with young larches. It is, I think, not a barrow but a natural mound. In favour of this is the fact that it lies at the *foot* of a steep slope, and is made of earth rather than the usual oolitic rubble. The natural configuration of the ground seems to favour mounds of this kind, and although there is not another as suggestive of a Long Barrow as this one, there are other mounds further south. In favour of an artificial origin is the fact that there appear to be two *upright* slabs just visible at the S.W. side. The usual form of encircling wall is, however, a dry wall and not a wall of slabs. If it *is* artificial, it is certainly a Long Barrow. It appears never to have been dug into in any place. Visited December 12th, 1920.

### BROADSTONES

Gloucestershire, 30 S.W.      Parish of Staunton.      83.

Latitude  $51^{\circ} 48' 29''$ .      Longitude  $2^{\circ} 40' 13''$ .      Height above O.D. about 600 feet.  
"  $51^{\circ} 48' 28''$ .      "  $2^{\circ} 40' 15''$ .

Mr. J. G. Wood, M.A., F.S.A., contributes the following note :—  
"Immediately west of the Buck Stone and on a lower level is Broadstones Farm, taking its name from a set of broad stones between the modern road and the line of the Roman road just north of the farm. In fact there is a number of such stones all about to select from." They are of Old Red Conglomerate.

## MOUNDS, STANDING STONES, ETC.

Two of these stones marked on Sheet 30, S.W. are in the parish of Staunton in Gloucestershire; one (whose Latitude is  $51^{\circ} 48' 27''$ , Longitude  $2^{\circ} 40' 20''$ ) is just over the border, in the parish and county of Monmouth.

### BROAD STONE

Gloucestershire, 54 N.E.      Parish of Tidenham.      84.

Latitude  $51^{\circ} 40' 19''$ . Longitude  $2^{\circ} 36' 39''$ . Height above O.D., just above high water mark.

Mr. J. G. Wood, M.A., F.S.A., contributes the following note:—  
“On the north side of the G.W.R., between the streams that end in Walden's Pill and Horse Pill, and near the boundary between Tidenham and Woolaston is another ‘broad-stone’ which I have often seen from the railway, but have not closely examined. There are several other stones near marked on the 6 in. map between the railway and the Roman road. None are boundary stones; but I believe they are all ‘drifters.’”

In a letter to me dated December 5th, 1922, Mr. A. E. W. Paine, of Cheltenham, says:—“The most curious is, I think, the Broadstone near Stroat, between Woolaston and Chepstow, on account of its extraordinary position on low ground, I should say below flood-mark. There is the usual local tradition that it was thrown by the Devil—in this case the tale being that it was thrown from Tidenham Chace at Thornbury Church on the other side of the river, and fell short. I should think it is doubtful if this stone is pre-historic; surely in pre-historic times the ground where it stands must have been a swamp?”

### BUCK STONE

Gloucestershire, 30 S.E.      Parish of Staunton.      85.

Latitude  $51^{\circ} 48' 24''$ . Longitude  $2^{\circ} 39' 53''$ . Height above O.D., 900 feet.

Mr. J. G. Wood, M.A., F.S.A., describes this as formerly a rocking stone, and believes it to have been poised by ice and settled down on its apex. It is now fixed. It is of Old Red Conglomerate. A full account of this purely natural stone is given in the reference cited on next page.

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The following account of it also appears in the *Proceedings of the Cotteswold Club*, Vol. xvi., pp. 34 and 35. "In 1885 the Buckstone, which up to that time had been a rocking stone, was toppled over by a party of six persons\* from Monmouthshire, but was subsequently restored by the Crown, only that it no longer rocks. Like most stones of the sort, certain legends cluster round it. It was said to be connected with Druidical worship in pre-historic times. According to a pamphlet published for private circulation, dealing with Staunton and district, popular opinion links the Buckstone with Druidical observances, and the large barrow or mound, fifty yards long and ten feet wide on the Meend, had suggested the idea that here may have been the tomb of an Arch-Druid. The same writer mentions several opinions touching the derivation of the word Buckstone, including buck or deer, which animal probably not infrequently sheltered under it. Whether the stone was ever associated with Druidical practices will probably never be definitely known, but the geologist has no difficulty in explaining how it came to be in its present position. In the course of ages it has been separated from the main body of rock by forces which are still working, and huge masses of the conglomerate are to be found detached and tumbled almost to the margin of the banks of the Wye."

\*A theatrical company.

*Trans. B. and G.A.S.*, ix., 1884-5, pp. 196-7. (Sir John Maclean ; woodcut).

### BUTTINGTON TUMP

Gloucestershire, 54 S.E. Parish of Tidenham. 86.

Latitude  $51^{\circ} 38' 03''$ . Longitude  $2^{\circ} 39' 13''$ . Height above O.D., 94 feet.

Mr. J. G. Wood, M.A., F.S.A., contributes the following note :—  
"On Buttington Tump (part of Offa's Dyke) is an erect stone, bedded in others and marked as 'standing-stone.' It may be as old as the Dyke but *not* older ; and I have a suspicion that its erection is somewhat modern, and that it was put there when the road to Beachley was improved and the hill cut down. It was possibly found to be in the way."

### CAMP BARROW (SOUTH)

Gloucestershire, 42 N.W. Parish of Miserden. 87.

Latitude  $51^{\circ} 46' 46''$ . Longitude  $2^{\circ} 07' 29''$ . Height above O.D., 864 feet.

"These are two interesting Long Barrows [Camp Barrow (north)

## MOUNDS, STANDING STONES, Etc.

is the other (*W. 6*)] a little to the south of the village of Camp, two miles north of Bisley; they have been previously described as Round Barrows, but such is not the case. They are situated close together, the 'horned' ends being only 15 feet apart; they extend in contrary directions one towards the north [this one], the other [*W. 6*] towards the south. The dimensions of the southern barrow are as follows:—Length, 130 feet; greatest width, 90 feet; the 'horned' end being towards the north. The circumscribing walls, formed of Stonesfield slate, are exposed to view in a quarry at the southern end."

There are now no signs of the circumscribing walls in the section exposed at the quarry, although this is quite fresh. The piled-up material can be seen resting on the old surface level, which consists of about 9 inches of red soil, above yellow oolitic rubble. The overlying rubble is about 2 feet thick, but the barrow has been much disturbed and some of the material removed, especially at the N.E. end. There are no signs of any big stones lying about. The southern part of the barrow has disappeared. Quarrying does not appear to be in progress now or to have taken place for some time past. Some measure of stability is indicated by the building of a pig-sty under the lee of the quarry away from the barrow. From the existing remains it is impossible to be quite sure that this southern mound is really a Long Barrow. It is certainly an artificial mound, but might have been round. Visited December 12th, 1920.

*W. 7.*

## COBSTONE

Gloucestershire, 49 S.E. Parish of Minchinhampton.

87a.

Speaking of "menhirs" Mr. G. F. Playne says: . . . "The Long Stone, near Minchinhampton, which stands due east of a spot on the edge of Minchinhampton Common, where formerly lay a remarkably fine stone, known as 'Cobstone'." . . . Nothing more seems to be known about the Cobstone; even its exact site, which was unfortunately not recorded by Mr. Playne, is at present unknown. He adds that it was "removed about 40 years ago, and used as building materials." (Account written in 1876.)

*Trans. B. and G.A.S.*, Vol. 1., 105, 6. (quoted in *Glouc. N. and Q.*, 1., 71.)

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### COLLEGE PLANTATION BARROW

Gloucestershire, 42 S.E. Parish of Duntisbourne Rouse. 88.

Latitude  $51^{\circ} 45' 08''$ . Longitude  $2^{\circ} 03' 34''$ . Height above O.D., about 690 feet.

To the east of W. 12 [Plantation Barrow East] and in the same straight line is what appears to be another Long Barrow. It is about 120 feet long and much lower. It is crossed at the E. end by a footpath, probably an old trackway, which may account for the fact that the west end is now the highest. Eastwards the barrow dies away imperceptibly, and as it is in a wood it is impossible to gauge its extent by the nature of the soil. The general arrangement (if it is a Long Barrow) is similar to that of the Long Barrows near Withering Corner, Hants., where the eastern of the two is also the smaller, and gives rise to a similar doubt as to its true character. It is strange that Witts should make no mention of this mound, whatever it may be, when he actually excavated the adjacent barrow.

### DEVIL'S GARDEN (STONES FROM)

Gloucestershire, 49 S.E. Parish of Minchinhampton. 88a.

The following is copied from the account of the *Proceedings of the B. and G.A.S.* at Stroud, July, 1880:—"A visit was then made to the yard of Mr. Baynes's house, The Lammas, Minchinhampton, to see some large stones which were, many years ago, removed from Cherrington Common, where they occupied a site known as the 'Devil's Garden.' (See map opposite p. 7). Mr. Baynes described the stones at some length. They were evidently taken from the surface of the rock known as the 'Great Oolite.' The surface of this rock is full of holes and is popularly known as the 'holey stone.' A letter from Dr. Lycett was read. . . . A vote of thanks to Mr. Baynes, and a suggestion by a member that the stones should be returned to Cherrington and restored to their original position terminated this part of the programme."

*Trans. B. and G.*, Vol. v., 1880-1, 19.

### DURSLEY MERE STONE

88b.

Gloucestershire, 56 N.E. On boundary of parishes of Dursley and Cam.

In *Glouc. N. and Q.* is given a sketch of this stone which is inscribed



## MOUNDS, STANDING STONES, Etc.

"P.D. 1663." The following note is printed with it :—" We give here a sketch taken in 1868 of an old boundary stone which marks the limits of the parish of Dursley from Cam, and is, we believe, still in existence [in 1894]. It is situated at the sandpits, on the road from Dursley to Berkeley, at the corner of a narrow bridle-path which leads up to Stinchcombe Hill."

*Glouc. N. and Q.*, Vol. v., 1894, 147 (fig.)

### GOMONDE'S BARROW

Gloucestershire, 27 N.W.? Parish of Cheltenham or Charlton Kings? 59.

The following account is copied from the *Proceedings of the Committee* published in the first volume of the *Journal of the British Archaeological Association* (1846), p. 153 :—

"Mr. Wright read the following communication from Mr. W. H. Gomonde, of Cheltenham.

"On Saturday, December 7th, 1844, Captain Bell and myself commenced opening a Long Barrow, the situation of which was somewhat singular, lying rather low, though elevated above a narrow valley, near a road which may have been an ancient trackway. The barrow lies E. and W., about 10 feet high and about 30 feet long. Mr. Pinching, the tenant of William Lawrence, Esq., had already caused a section to be made in the highest part, about 6 feet wide, to below the natural soil, and discovered nothing but a piece of brass with zig-zag lines, supposed to have been a buckle, but which we have not been able to see. We made our section further east; on the top we found rubble and earth mixed together. This extended to about 6 feet, with here and there a small piece of coarse pottery; under the rubble we arrived at a stratum of sandy earth and clay containing small fragments of burnt wood; this earth, etc. formed a ridge running quite through the length of the barrow; we found here bones, teeth, etc., of oxen. We penetrated to a considerable depth below the foundation but found nothing more. We then made another excavation 4 feet deep on the W. end, but were still unsuccessful. I think the primary deposit has not yet been discovered; we have an idea of cutting through the whole length of the barrow."

I am indebted to Mr. Roland Austin, of the Public Library, Gloucester, for the following suggestions with regard to the site of this barrow :—

## GLOUCESTERSHIRE

"Gomonde published in 1849 a pamphlet (now very scarce) called *Notes on Cheltenham : ancient and mediæval*, and he gives a rough sketch map of his finds in the way of barrows, camps, etc. You will notice that in *B.A.A.* he speaks of the tenant of a William Lawrence. Lawrence lived in the district called 'Greenway,' near Cheltenham, and is in the Directory of 1844, so that points to some spot in the district. On the sketch map is shown the 'ancient trackway' mentioned on p. 152, though it is not lettered as such. This is near 'Hewletts,' now a district between Cheltenham and Charlton Kings, and by the side of the trackway Gomonde marks a barrow. Putting the two together, it seems reasonable to suppose that this barrow may be the one we want." In the *Journal of the Anthropological Society*, Vol. III., 1865, p. 67, is a reference to Gomonde's activities, but it seems to refer to a distinct site. The writer (Dr. Bird) says:—"Bodies are often discovered some feet deep in the earth, or near the surface, near tumuli, barrows and knaps, presenting the round tumulus character of skeleton, as the bones recently discovered near the surface of the soil in St. James's Square, Cheltenham—where a knap and burial place formerly existed, described in Gomonde's *History of Cheltenham*."

In Witts' note-book (now at the Cheltenham Town Museum) it is recorded that a *round* barrow at Dry Heath Field in the parish of Leckhampton was examined by Messrs. Gomonde and Bell "about 30 years back." This round barrow is probably Witts' No. 13 (round). See *J.A.I.* III. 1865, 68; *Proc. C.N.F.C.* VI. 334, 5.

## HANGMAN'S STONE

Gloucestershire, 36 S.W. Parish of Hampnett (at junction of parishes of Hampnett, Yanworth and Stowell). 89.

Latitude 51° 50' 04". Longitude 1° 52' 23". Height above O.D. 705 feet.

Visited site November 20th, 1920, but unable to find. There is a small mound at the point where the stone is marked on the O.S. Map, but I do not think it is a barrow. It is not mentioned by Witts.

On December 22nd, 1920, I had a long talk with Frederick Norman, of Armstrong, Chedworth, an old man of about 80, who was one of those who excavated the Roman Villa at Chedworth in 1864. He told me, amongst other things, that the stone in question was "a stile," *i.e.*, that

## MOUNDS, STANDING STONES, Etc.

it is the one now used as a stile there, in the usual Gloucestershire fashion. Whether this is really the stone I do not know. He did not know of any other stones there. He told me that the story was—he didn't know whether it was true, but what they used to say was—that a man had stole a sheep and was getting over the stile when he fell and the sheep got entangled and hung him.

### HANGMAN'S STONE

Gloucestershire, 51 S.E. On boundary of parishes of Siddington and Preston. 90.

Latitude  $51^{\circ} 41' 47''$ . Longitude  $1^{\circ} 55' 40''$ . Height above O.D. 381 feet.

Speaking of Preston, Rudder says :—" This parish is bounded to the westward by the Irmin-Street, one of the Roman ways passing through Cirencester ; and at the distance of two miles from the town, but in this parish, there stands an antient rude stone, about 4 feet high, lately painted and mark'd as a milestone. This is vulgarly called *Hangman's Stone*, because, it is said, a fellow resting a sheep thereon (which he had stolen and tied its legs together for the convenience of carrying it) was there strangled, by the animal's getting its legs round his neck in struggling."

Rudder's *Gloucestershire*, 1779, p. 606. (Quoted in *County Folklore*, No. 1. *Gloucestershire*, p. 51.)

### HOAR STONE

Gloucestershire, 50 N.W. Parish of Bisley-with-Lypiatt. 91.

Height above O.D. about 750 feet.

On the Tithe Map of Bisley, the fields between Eastcombe and Nashend Farm are called "Hoar Stone." Here also are marked three round barrows on the edition of 1903. I have visited them and there appears no doubt that they are the remains of round and not long barrows. But it seems not unlikely, in view of the name "Hoar Stone," either that a long barrow once stood here and has disappeared ; or that one of the round barrows was once a long one and has lost its original shape. All three barrows are very low and flat.

Witts records two barrows only here, Nos. 83 and 84.

*Bisley Tithe Map*, 1873, Nos. 429 and 434.

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### HOAR STONE

Gloucestershire, 29 N.W. Parish of Lower Swell. 92.

Latitude  $51^{\circ} 55' 19''$ . Longitude  $1^{\circ} 45' 08''$ . Height above O.D. about 610 feet.

Situated in the middle of a ploughed field, about half a mile S.S.W. of Lower Swell Church. No signs of a mound. Not mentioned by Witts. It consists apparently of local oolite stone.

I was told by the gardener at Lower Swell Vicarage that "they tried to move it and found it 8 feet deep in the ground, and the tackle broke as they were making the attempt." A recent suggestion to re-erect it on the village green as a war memorial was rejected, through the salutary influence of this bit of folklore !

*Trans. B. and G.A.S.*, VII., 77. (Reference only by Royce).

### IDEL BARROW

Gloucestershire, 33 S.E. Parish of Upton St. Leonards. 93.

Latitude  $51^{\circ} 58' 47''$ . Longitude  $2^{\circ} 10' 47''$ . Height above O.D. 800 feet.

In Pope's Wood. . . . "It lies close to the ancient Portway, but I have not had an opportunity of examining the mound with the care necessary to say anything definite on the subject."

Site visited December 17th, 1920. The site was pointed out to me by T. Barnfield, who happened to be at the spot. It lies at the junction of the parishes of Cranham, Painswick, and Upton St. Leonards. There is now no trace of a mound to be seen, but the ground near by is not quite flat and excavation might reveal the presence of a certain amount of disturbed soil. Mr. St. Clair Baddeley informed me the same day that he had seen a large stone there, which might have been the last vestige of a chamber, but Barnfield did not know of anything but boundary stones which have since disappeared. I questioned him on this point.

"Idelberge" is mentioned in a grant of land of A.D. 1121. [*Gloucester Chartulary*, Rolls Series, Vol. 1., p. 205].

The site is quite a likely one for a Long Barrow.

W. 19. (Quoted above).

## MOUNDS, STANDING STONES, Etc.

### IRECOMBE

Gloucestershire. Parish unknown. 108.

In the article cited below, in the *Wiltshire Archaeological Magazine* for November, 1856, Thurnam refers to a Chambered Long Barrow at "Irecombe at Boxwell near Wootton-under-Edge." In the same Magazine for October, 1862, he refers to two "less distinctive examples at Leighterton and Lasbury in Gloucestershire." Is the example at Lasbury that described in the first reference as at "Irecombe?" and in either case where is the mound so described? I have searched the Tithe Maps of the parishes near here, but cannot find the site of "Irecombe." The tumulus marked on 57 S.W. seven hundred feet east of Lasborough Church is a large round barrow.

*W.A.M.* III., 1856, p. 173; VII. 1862, p. 323.

### LONGSTONE

Gloucestershire, 30 N.E. Parish of English Bicknor. 94.

Latitude  $51^{\circ} 50' 11''$ . Longitude  $2^{\circ} 38' 13''$ . Height above O.D. 300 feet.

Mr. J. G. Wood, M.A., F.S.A., contributes the following note:—"Of an entirely different class [from erratic blocks] is the 'Longstone' above Symond's Yat Station marked on Gloucestershire 30 N.E. This is a natural 'stack' or pillar left by the denudation of the Carboniferous Limestone cliff of which it is a portion. It is exactly analogous (in relation to the outcrop and otherwise) to the Devil's Pulpit on the line of the Dyke on the cliff above the Plum weir at Tintern. This stack at Symond's Yat is called *Longa Petra* on the Dean Forest Survey of A.D. 1282."

### LONGSTONE

Gloucestershire, 38 S.E. Parish of St. Briavel's. 95.

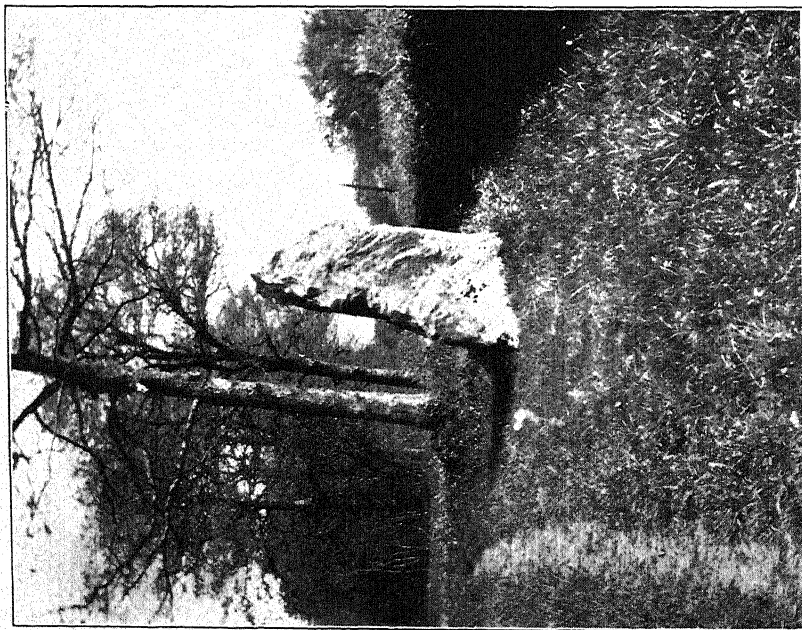
Latitude  $51^{\circ} 44' 34''$ . Longitude  $2^{\circ} 36' 21''$ . Height above O.D. about 600 feet.

The following letter was read by Professor A. H. Church at a meeting of the Society of Antiquaries, March 9th, 1876 [*Proceedings*, 2 S., VI., 502-3]; the writer's name is not stated:—

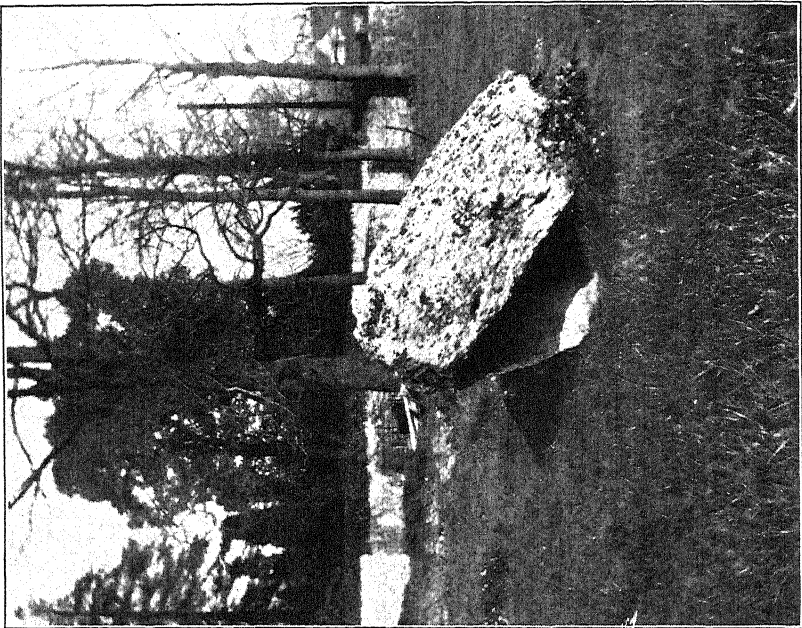
"In March, 1875, when visiting the antiquities of the Forest of Dean, I was in search of 'Longstone,' a monolith described by Samuel Rudder, in his *History of Gloucestershire* (1779), as 'a stone set on end. . .







LONGSTONE  
Parish of Staunton



DRUID STOKE  
Stoke Bishop, Bristol (p. 223)

## GLOUCESTERSHIRE

ten feet high above the surface, six feet broad and five thick.' Its situation is marked on the Ordnance Map [old one inch engraved edition of 1830, Sheet 35] at about  $1\frac{1}{2}$  miles east of St. Briavel's Castle; but as the roads are deep and winding, I had some trouble to find its exact locality. On enquiring of a farm labourer for the 'Longstone' he replied with a broad grin, 'You be come too late, Sir,' and he then told me that the tenant farmer who had just entered on the farm on which 'Longstone' had stood, had blown it to pieces with three charges of gunpowder, broken it up with sledges, and carted it into a quarry at the side of the field. The owner of the property was residing abroad.

"I visited the spot on which 'Longstone' had stood, and also the fragments, and was forcibly impressed with the need of some law to protect our national antiquities from wanton destruction.

" 'Longstone' was a sandstone of the district and stood out in the middle of a large field by itself, without mound or other stone near. It was not on the highest ground of its neighbourhood. . . . "

*Proc. Soc. Ant.*, 2 S., VI., 1876, pp. 502-3.

## LONGSTONE

Gloucestershire, 30 S.E.      Parish of Staunton.      96.

Latitude  $51^{\circ} 48' 18''$ .      Longitude  $2^{\circ} 38' 22''$ .      Height above O.D. 680 feet.

Mr. J. G. Wood, M.A., F.S.A., contributes the following note:—"By the side of the main road from Staunton and close to the 4th milestone from Monmouth is an erect 'long-stone,' and I have a recollection of finding another not far from it." They are both of Old Red Conglomerate.

The following note is valuable as perhaps providing another instance of an interesting bit of folklore:—"The first halting-place was at a remarkable monolith by the side of the highway leading from Gloucester to Monmouth, about a mile from Coleford. . . . This monolith is of unhewn stone, and stands 8 feet above the ground, and probably it is as deep beneath it. [Is this an echo of the common folk-tale?] It is known as the 'Long Stone.' No tradition concerning it remains, except that if it be pricked by a pin exactly at midnight, it will bleed."

*Trans. B. and G.A.S.*, VI., 1881-2, 357.

## MOUNDS, STANDING STONES, Etc.

### LANG STONE\*

Gloucestershire, 49 S.E.      Parish of Minchinhampton.      97.

"There is a stone called the 'Lang Stone' situated on the far [east] side of the camp [the large enclosure at Minchinhampton] which tradition states was placed with two other stones (since removed) to mark the spot where three Danish chieftains were killed. The hollow to the south is called 'Woeful Dane Bottom.'"

The stones, of course, have no more connection with the Danes than the Bottom; they were probably the remains of a burial-chamber. The site was known to the late Mr. Arthur Playne, of Longfords.

*Proc. C.N.F.C.*, XIII., 1898-9, p. 56. (E. N. Witchell, quoted above).

### LYPIATT

Gloucestershire.      Parish of Bisley.      97a.

After referring to the "cists" at the small end of the Long Barrows at Belas Knap and Lamborough, Dr. Bird says:—"Some traces of such a cist could be discovered in the Long Barrow at Lypiatt." This can hardly refer to the Bisley barrow (13) because only fourteen lines further on (p. 30) he speaks of this by the name "Bisley." It seems therefore that another Long Barrow exists or existed at Lypiatt.

*Trans. B. and G.A.S.* v. 29.

### ODO and DODO

Gloucestershire, 20 N.W.      Parish of Gotherington.      97b.

(The camp is between 800 and 915 feet above O.D.).

Mr. A. D. Passmore reports the rediscovery by himself of two upright stones that were removed from Nottingham Hill Camp about 1860. They now stand in the grounds of Prescott House, where he photographed and measured them. One is about seven feet high and the other a foot less, and they both taper to a rough point. They were called "Odo and Dodo" by the old people who remember them.

\* It is possible that this may be the same as the 'Long Stone' described on p. 113, but owing to the confused accounts it is a point difficult to decide.



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Rudder records the existence of several round barrows both inside and outside the camp, which according to Wits have all disappeared. The following refer to Nottingham Hill :—

W. p. 38.

Rudder, p. 369.

Norman's *Hist. of Cheltenham*, p. 12.

*Trans. B. and G.A.S.*, 1879-80, p. 206.

## OUDOCEUS' STONE

Gloucestershire, 54 S.W.      Parish of Tidenham.      98.

Latitude  $51^{\circ} 38' 56''$ .      Longitude  $2^{\circ} 40' 36''$ .

Height above O.D. a little above high water mark of ordinary tides.

Mr. J. G. Wood, M.A., F.S.A., contributes the following note :—  
“ At the Roman bridge-crossing there was formerly a stone 6 feet by 4 feet (about) and how deep I cannot say, as it was sunk in the alluvium all but about 3 feet. Perhaps it should be called a pair of stones ; for it was sharply and cleanly divided into two equal halves. It lay close to the edge of high water. It is clearly the stone of which a story is told of Bishop Oudoceus in *Liber Landavensis* (edition of 1893, p. 139). This is, that, to show his miraculous powers to Gildas, he took an axe and split the stone. In my time I heard other traditions of a less saintly origin ! This (like the others) was of Old Red Conglomerate. When I last went to look for them they had disappeared—sunk, I suppose into the alluvium, for the bank had been a good deal denuded.

“ The writer of the *Vita S. Oudocei* said ‘ *nec ulli hominum per viam illam evitandi lapides sunt* ’ meaning presumably that ‘ the stones could not escape being seen by any man going by that [Roman] road.’ Now, you cannot go by the road or see the stones ! ”

## PICKED STONE

Gloucestershire, 57 N.E.      Parish of Horsley.      35b.

Latitude  $51^{\circ} 40' 44''$ .      Longitude  $2^{\circ} 12' 07''$ .      Height above O.D. about 580 feet.

Speaking of “ menhirs ” Mr. G. F. Playne says :—. . . “ Due south of ‘ Cobstone ’ [q.v.] was another monolith, which is marked on the



## MOUNDS, STANDING STONES, Etc.

Ordnance Map as 'the Picked Stone.' Both 'Cobstone' and 'the Picked Stone' were removed about 40 years ago, and used as building materials." See also under Lechmore Barrow No. 35 which seems to be identical with this one.

*Trans. B. and G.A.S.*, Vol. I., 105, 106. (Quoted in *Glouc. N. and Q.*, I, 71.)

## SAINTBURY MOUND

Gloucestershire, 7 S.E.      Parish of Saintbury.      99.

Latitude  $52^{\circ} 03' 01''$ .      Longitude  $1^{\circ} 49' 35''$ .      Height above O.D. about 620 feet.

Situated exactly a quarter of a mile S.E. of St. Nicholas' Church, Saintbury. It is marked on the O.S. [1903 edition] as "Mound" in Old English characters. I visited it November 16th, 1920, and was unable by mere inspection to arrive at any definite opinion about it. It *may*, I think, be purely natural. It seems rather too big for a Long Barrow, and should not be regarded as such, or included on any maps, until further evidence is forthcoming.

Immediately to the south of it is a small mound of an indeterminate nature.

## SALTWAY BARN

Gloucestershire, 44 N.W.      Parish of Bibury.      100.

Latitude  $51^{\circ} 46' 47''$ .      Longitude  $1^{\circ} 49' 59''$ .      Height above O.D. 520 feet.

I identify this with Witts' No. 10 [Crickley Barrow South], but with some hesitation. It lies a mile and a half south of the position shown on his map; but it is clear from his account of these two barrows that he never visited them himself. I think the mistake may have arisen in this way. On the *old* 1 in. O.S. Map (which Witts used and from which his map of the antiquities is reproduced) *two* Saltway Barns are marked, one at the present barn, and the other where Saltway *Farm* now stands. It is quite likely that Witts' informant merely described the position of this barrow to him as "near Saltway Barn," and that Witts entered it near the northern one. (Possibly he did not know there were two places with the same name until he came to place it on the map, when it may have been impossible to consult his informant again). Anyway, I searched

## GLOUCESTERSHIRE

the ground indicated by his map near Saltway Farm and could not find the slightest suggestion of a barrow there ; nor did Frederick Norman know of any barrow there. The site is *a priori* an unlikely one.

I am inclined to think that some remains at The Clump, about 350 yards S.W. of Saltway Barn, are in reality the site of this barrow. There are a number of irregular mounds and hollows, and it is noticeable that none of the hollows are *lower* than the adjacent surface away from the mound. They are not therefore the result of quarrying, but of the dispersal by digging of a previously existing mound. The site is planted with 25 pollarded ashes and 43 unpollarded elms, standing in a grass field. The mound was about 120 feet long, oriented N.W.-S.E.

W. 10?

## SWELL HILL MOUND

Gloucestershire, 21 S.E. Parish of Lower Swell. 101.

Latitude  $51^{\circ} 55' 39''$ . Longitude  $1^{\circ} 46' 16''$ . Height above O.D. about 750 feet.

Situated between Hill Barn and Swell Hill Farm in a field bounded on the east by Condicote Lane. The mound is low and irregular but seems oriented almost due E. and W. Visited November 17th, 1920.

## SYMONDS' HALL MOUNDS

Gloucestershire, 57 N.W. Parish of Wotton-under-Edge. 102.

Latitude  $51^{\circ} 39' 42''$ . Longitude  $2^{\circ} 17' 35''$ . Height above O.D. about 750 feet.

These mounds lie about 760 yards east of Symonds' Hall Farm, 150 yards west of a spring. They are included by Witts in his list of Round Barrows [W. 91 and 92.] I am not quite sure that they are not the remains of a Long Barrow which has had the central portion removed. If so, the original length would have been about 210 feet, quite a normal length, though rather above the average. There is also a "tail" at the S.W. end, 24 feet long, which corresponds exactly to that at the S.W. end of the Juniper Hill Barrow [W. 13]. There is none visible at the N.E. end. As the field in which the barrow, or barrows, stand, appears never to have been under plough, it is quite natural to find the "tail" so well preserved. The orientation is N.E.-S.W. The mound at the N.E. end

## MOUNDS, STANDING STONES, Etc.

is larger and higher than the other. The space between the two has been disturbed at no very distant date, as it is overgrown with sting-nettles. There are at least four large holes where the barrows have been dug into. There is not enough evidence on the surface to settle the question of the type to which the barrow belongs. An interesting early reference to these barrows is given by John Smith of Nibley in the first half of the 17th century:—"The farme house [of Simondsale] stands in the highest part of all this hundred [of Berkeley], it being generally believed that the little hill or tumpe neere to this house (supposed to be a Danish or Saxon grave of some great Lord) is the highest earth in the kingdom of England; and yet no place is or can be better watered with many delicate and wholesome springs than this, heerin arisinge." It will be noted that John Smith refers to the "little hill or tump" (in the singular), as if it were a single mound in his day.

W. 91 and 92 Round.

*A Description of the Hundred of Berkeley*, by John Smith, of Nibley (ed. Sir John Maclean, 1885, Vol. III., 323).

## THROUGHAM QUARRY

Gloucestershire, 42 S.W.      Parish of Bisley.      103.

Latitude  $51^{\circ} 45' 51''$ .      Longitude  $2^{\circ} 07' 24''$ .      Height above O.D. about 820 feet.

When visiting the adjoining Long Barrow [W. 32] I noticed the remains of a huge mound close by. It stands at the S.E. end of a rectangular plantation, at the N.W. end of which is a cottage. The mound is 500 yards E.S.E. of the Long Barrow. It appears to be oriented N.N.W.-S.S.E. I could not form an opinion as to whether it was a Long Barrow or not; but am inclined to be cautious in view of the presence of quarry-pits all round. There are, however, no signs of excavations *immediately* adjoining the mound, and so large an accumulation would hardly have been piled up any long distance away from the excavation. The grass grows thickly on it, so that it is evidently a long time since the mound was formed. The surface moreover is even and not dug into; and it has not the irregular appearance of a mere dump. If genuine, it is of the highest interest, as it has *certainly* never been tampered with. Five hundred yards to the E.N.E. are the remains of barrows, probably W. (no number or description, but marked on Witts'

## GLOUCESTERSHIRE

Map). One of these appears to be, or have been, long, but there is hardly any mound, and the indications are those of loose stones lying about in large quantities. These remains indicate as well the certain presence of two barrows, both of them probably round.

### TOAD ROCK

Gloucestershire, 30 S.E. Parish of Staunton. 104.

Latitude  $51^{\circ} 48' 35''$ . Longitude  $2^{\circ} 39' 32''$ . Height above O.D. between 700 and 800 feet.

Mr. J. G. Wood, M.A., F.S.A., contributes the following note:—  
“A very singular stone called the Toad Rock projects over the Monmouth-Staunton road, a little west of the 3rd milestone from Monmouth. This *may* be *in situ*, or drifted. It is of Old Red Conglomerate.”

### TWIZZLE STONE

(See also 13 “Bisley Barrow”)

Gloucestershire, 50 N.W. Parish of Bisley-with-Lypiatt. 105.

Height above O.D. about 750 feet.

On the Tithe Map of Bisley (A.D. 1873) several fields are called by the name of Twizzle Stone. They lie between Limekiln Lane and another road about 300 yards to the S.W. The name indicates an ancient stone, possibly the remnant of a Chambered Long Barrow; but the site of the stone itself is doubtful. A stone is marked on the O.S. map on the N.E. side of Limekiln Lane on the extreme northern margin of the map. The fields thus called are very near the site of the Bisley Long Barrow, q.v.

*Bisley Tithe Map* (1873), Nos. 679-682.

### WESTON PARK MOUND

Gloucestershire, 7 S.E. Parish of Weston-sub-Edge. 106.

Latitude  $52^{\circ} 03' 17''$ . Longitude  $1^{\circ} 48' 13''$ . Height above O.D. 700 feet.

Situated on Dover's Hill, immediately N.E. of Weston Park. It is shown by a surrounding contour line (700'). It is almost certainly natural. Visited November 16th, 1920.

## MOUNDS, STANDING STONES, Etc.

### CHEPSTOW

Gloucestershire, 54 S.W.      Parish of Tidenham.      109.

Latitude  $51^{\circ} 38' 45''$ .      Longitude  $2^{\circ} 40' 02''$ .      Height above O.D., over 100 feet.

Mr. J. G. Wood, M.A., F.S.A., contributes the following note :—  
“ Fifteen chains north of the railway bridge at Chepstow, on the edge of the cliff on the east side of the Wye, I found amid brushwood an enormous cubical block of Old Red Conglomerate, resting on the Carboniferous Limestone. This could not possibly have arrived there otherwise than by ice flotation.”

### WERGINS STONE

Herefordshire, 34 N.W.      Parish of Sutton.      110.

Latitude  $52^{\circ} 05' 30''$ .      Longitude  $2^{\circ} 41' 11''$ .      Height above O.D. between 150 and 200 feet.

Camden's account is as follows :—“ Between Sutton and Hereford in Sutton St. Nicholas parish in a common meadow called the Wergins, stood two stones for a water mark, one upright and the other laid across it, probably remains of a cromlech. In the late Civil Wars about 1652, they were removed 240 paces, nobody knew how, but because of their bulk, of course ascribed to the Devil, and called ‘ The Devil's Stone.’ One of them required nine yoke of oxen to draw it to its former site.”

Gough's *Camden*, Vol. III., 1806, p. 86.

### QUEEN STONE

Herefordshire, 54 N.W.      Parish of Goodrich.      111.

Latitude  $51^{\circ} 51' 37''$ .      Longitude  $2^{\circ} 38' 15''$ .      Height above O.D. between 70 and 80 feet.

The following account is given in the *Victoria County History* (Herefordshire, Vol. I., 1908, pp. 160-1). (The stone is situated within the horseshoe bend of the Wye, north of Symond's Yat) :—“ It rises about 7 feet 6 inches above the surface of the ground, and is a block of Old Red Conglomerate, containing angular, subangular and rounded fragments of other rocks. Mr. J. G. Wood, M.A., F.S.A., judging ‘ from the comparatively small size of the pebbles, and their small proportion to the mass of the enclosing sand-rock,’ considers ‘ that it had formed



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part of the lower, rather than the upper beds of the Conglomerate.' His precise account has furnished the chief facts which are here given of a stone which, if not of artificial shape, is so remarkable and striking in its appearance that it must always have occupied a prominent place in local folklore and superstition.

"It is manifest that the Queen Stone is not *in situ* so far as vertical position is concerned, but it is probable that it rests on the surface of the old denuded beds of rock underground. It may, indeed, have been brought down to its present level by a process of vertical denudation similar to that which the sarsen stones, or grey-wethers, in the chalk downs, have undergone.

"The chief point about the stone, more remarkable even than its singular shape and vertical position, is the deeply grooved character of its sides. These grooves are very regular in their direction, extend from the top to the bottom, are strongly marked, especially on the eastern face, and are thirteen in number. A careful examination leads Mr. Wood to the conclusion that at some time after the block was detached, as a shapeless mass, from its parent bed, it was subjected to a flood of falling water charged with sand and other grinding materials with the result that a number of grooves were formed upon it." It seems probable, however, that the long-continued action of rain and other natural agents would have sufficed, acting upon the stone in its present position.

J. G. Wood, M.A., F.S.A., *Trans. Woolhope Nat. Field Club*, 1901, pp. 229-231.

## GWAL-Y-FILIAST

Monmouthshire, 33 S.W. Parish of Michaelston-y-Vedw. 112.

Latitude  $51^{\circ} 32' 39''$ . Longitude  $3^{\circ} 05' 40''$ . Height above O.D. about 220 feet.

Mr. J. G. Wood, M.A., F.S.A., contributes the following account:—  
"This 'maenhir' is at the place now called 'Druidstone' on the *old* Cardiff-Newport road. The stone is somewhat of a pyramidal shape according to the drawing in Mrs. Bagnall-Oakeley's account; and I should doubt its having anything but a natural origin if it were not for the name which Mrs. Oakeley gives to the farm, Gwael-y-filast,\* which has now disappeared from the map. This is plainly a corruption of Gwal-y-filiast or 'The Greyhound's Bed'; compare 'The Greyhound's Grave' in Borlase's *Dolmens*, p. 875 and the 'cromlech' at Llanboidy

\* This name occurs on the old MS. 2 in. O.S. map of 1812. O.G.S.C.

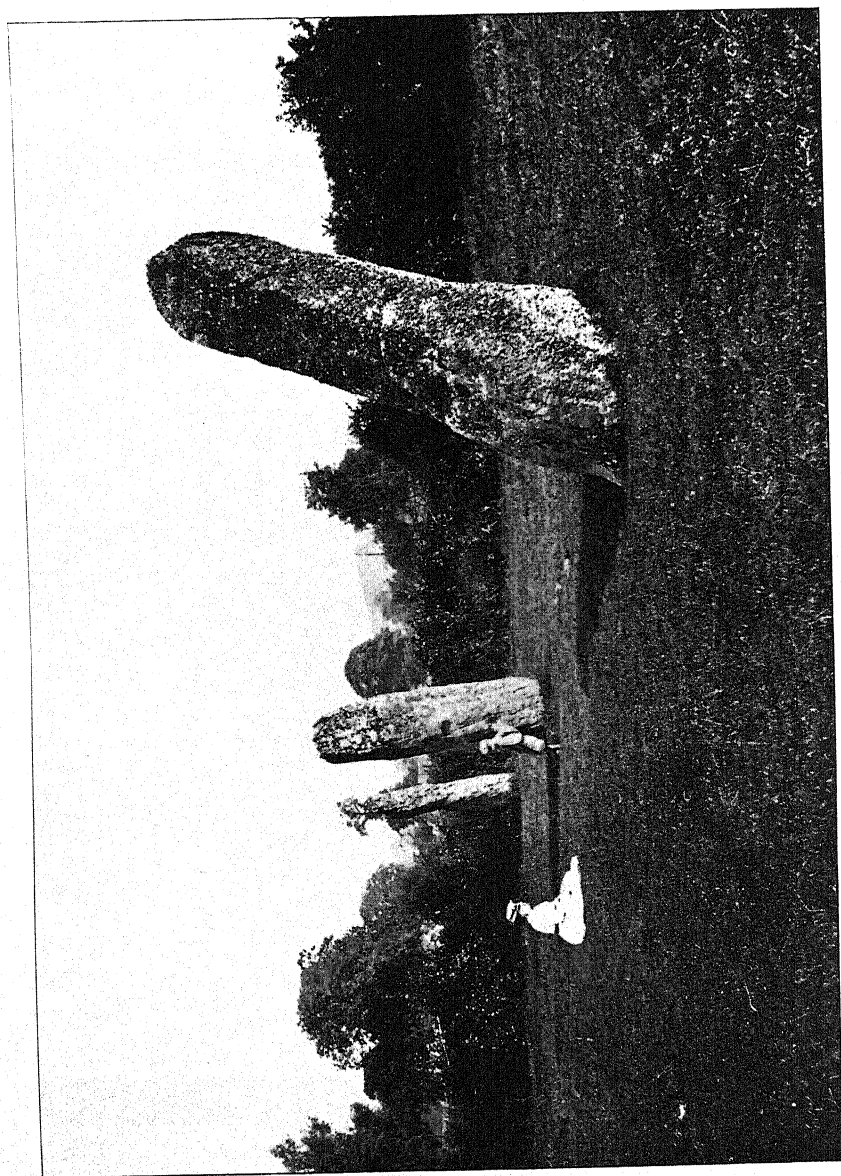
## MOUNDS, STANDING STONES, ETC.

(Carmarthen) which (according to *Arch. Camb.* 4 S., VII., 226) is called Twll-y-filiast, 'The Greyhound's Hovel,' and which in Lewis' *Topographical Dictionary* is similarly miswritten Gwael-y-filast. This last is said to be also called Bwrdd Arthur which is a common name for a 'cromlech'; but (as I have written lately with regard to the Arthur's Stone at Dorstone) merely means 'elevated table' and has nothing to do with the legendary king. There is a Bedd-y-ci-du at Llanishen (Glamorgan). 'The Black Dog's Grave,' suggested to be the origin of the name of the Manor of Dogfield. See also Borlase, p. 408 with reference to the 'Dog's Grave' in Kilkenny. With these analogies I give this 'maenhir' the benefit of the doubt."

A visit of inspection on August 19th, 1921, failed to solve the problem of the original purpose of this monument. It stands a few yards to the north of Mr. Wyndham's house at Druidstone, close to the point where formerly three field-hedges united. This was pointed out to me by Mr. Wyndham's foreman, whose memory goes back nearly half a century. Originally the stone stood in a hedge which has now, of course, been grubbed up, but of which an elder and an old thorn are the relics. The earth on the upper or N.W. face of the stone stands a good deal higher than on the S.E. face, the result of former ploughing. The old hedge-bank consists of a great number of small boulders, and it is not impossible that these are the last vestiges of a mound. There is, however, no other evidence that the stone ever formed part of a burial-chamber in a Long Barrow; and in the absence of any other evidence no certain conclusion can be drawn as to its age and purpose. It is however, quite certain that it has been placed in its present position by human agency; since it consists of a slab of stratified sandstone placed on edge. Its great height is against the theory that it ever formed one of the uprights of a burial-chamber. It is illustrated on Plate IV. (opposite p. 16) of Mrs. Bagnall-Oakeley's monograph, from a sketch by Lord Tredegar made apparently before the hedge was grubbed; the dimensions there given are as follows:—Height, 10 ft. 6 ins.; breadth, 7 ft. 6 ins.; thickness, 2 ft. 6 ins.

The N.W. face is covered with pock-marks which have the appearance of tooling or pounding done with rude implements (such as stone hammers for instance). The foreman mentioned a story that the stone is said to go down to the water for a swim when the cock crows at night. This recalls the superstition that the stones of Carnac (Brittany) are said to bathe in the sea once a year.





HAROLD'S STONES, TRELLECK

## MONMOUTHSHIRE

*Rude Stone Monuments in Monmouthshire*, by M. E. Bagnall-Oakeley, 1889, p. 12.

Peet, T. E., *Rough Stone Monuments* (Harper's Library of Living Thought, 1912), p. 13.

*Arch. Camb.*, 1909, pp. 267, 272 (said there to be the remains of the St. Mellons' Cromlech).

## LLECH OUDOUCUI

Monmouthshire.

Parish of Trelleck ?

113.

Height above O.D. 716 feet.

Mr. J. G. Wood, M.A., F.S.A., contributes the following note :—  
“ There is, west of the Wye, another stone connected with Oudouceus, and that was at Broadstones Farm, east of Trelleck, Monmouth. There, in the boundaries of Llandogo (*Lib. Land.* p. 156), the ‘ llech Oudoucui ’ is mentioned. This ‘ flat stone of Oudouceus ’ I cannot find, but possibly it is the great flagstone in Trelleck Churchyard, which seems to serve no purpose, and may have been brought there ‘ *intuitu caritatis.* ’ ”

## TRELLECK (“HAROLD’S STONES”)

Monmouthshire, 20 N.E.

Parish of Trelleck.

114.

Latitude 51° 44′ 32″.      Longitude 2° 43′ 31″.      Height above O.D. about 670 feet.

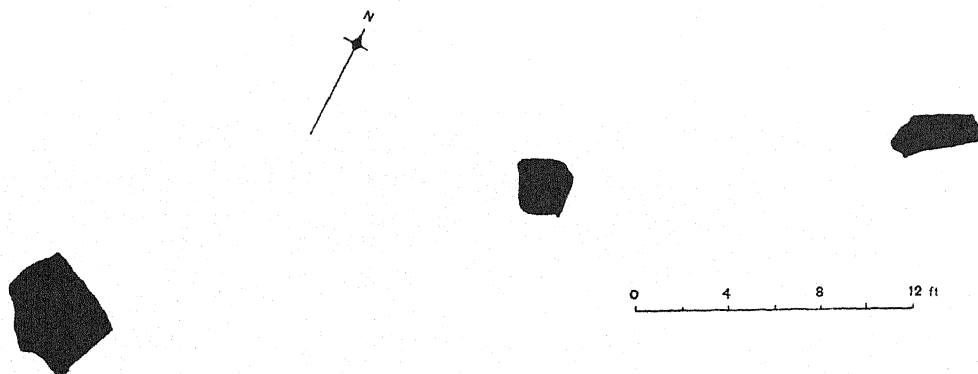
Mr. J. G. Wood, M.A., F.S.A., points out that these three stones cannot possibly be the remains of a circle, as suggested by Mrs. Bagnall-Oakeley, since the diameter would be 672 feet, far greater than that of the Keswick Circle, and quite impossible here on account of the nature of the ground. With reference to the name “ Harold’s Stones ” Mr. Wood remarks :—“ A stone such as these was called *Har-stan*, which means old or hoary. Hence Dr. Griffin (that first class guesser) probably invented ‘ Harold’s Stones. ’ ”

A plan (reproduced here) elevation and sketch of the stones is amongst the Lukis MSS. in the Lukis Museum, Guernsey. From these it appears that they are oriented in a direction 72 degrees E. of true north. The S.W. stone leans considerably and is eleven feet high. The middle stone is 9 ft. 11 ins. high. The N.E. stone is 8 ft. 3 ins. high. The



## MOUNDS, STANDING STONES, Etc.

original drawing is by Sir Henry Dryden, and is dated July 6th, 1841. There are also two copies.



"HAROLD'S STONES," TRELLECK.

After Sir Henry Dryden, 1841.

1:100

The purpose of these short alignments of huge uprights is obscure. Comparisons are suggested with the "Five Kings," near Rothbury, Northumberland, and the "Devil's Arrows" near Boroughbridge, Yorks.

*Rude Stone Monuments in Monmouthshire*, by M. E. Bagnall-Oakeley, 1889, pp. 13-15. Plates v. (view) and vi. (plan).

*Lukis Collection* (MSS), Lukis Museum, Guernsey.

## GRAY HILL

Monmouthshire, 30 N.W. Parish of Llanvair-discoed. 115.

Height above O.D. about 820 feet.

In her account of remains on Gray Hill (pp. 16, 17; see my No. 71\*). Mrs. Bagnall-Oakeley refers to a "cist"; her account of its position is very vague, but in proceeding to describe the stone circle which is marked on the map, she says, "still ascending the hill at about 200 yards to the north-east are the remains of a stone circle" etc. From this it is clear that the 'cist' must have been about 200 yards to the south-west of the circle. A careful hunt on August 26th, 1921 failed to reveal any signs of a "cist" or chamber here; and as in other places of the book her compass-points are rather vague, it is possible that we should read 'north-west' and look there for the "cist" about 200 yards to the S.E.

## MONMOUTHSHIRE

of the circle. The luxuriant growth of bracken (three or four feet high, in places) made an exhaustive search almost impossible, and the real nature of the "cist" therefore remains indetermined. Possibly it may be the chamber of a Long Cairn of the same type as that at Pen-y-wyrlod in Llanigan. Mrs. Bagnall-Oakeley's account (given below) suggests as much. "Ascending the hill in a north-westerly direction at about 100 yards from these cairns is an interesting cist of larger size, 6 ft long, by 3 ft. wide, and nearly 3 ft. deep; this is nearly complete but wants the coverer [capstone]; it lies due east and west and is evidently a more ancient grave than those on the lower part of the hill. The cairn which enclosed it has been almost entirely destroyed by an old fence and modern road which ran through it."

*Rude Stone Monuments in Monmouthshire*, p. 16.

## CHURCHILL STONE

Oxfordshire, 14 S.W.

Parish of Churchill. 115a.

Latitude 51° 55' 43". Longitude 1° 34' 22". Height above O.D. about 585 feet.

This stone is a little over a mile south-west of Chipping Norton Station. It stands in the hedge on the north-west side of the road and is about four feet high. It is marked "stone" in ordinary characters on the O.S. map. It has been seen by Mr. A. D. Passmore, who drew my attention to it in a letter and supplied the above facts. Nothing more is known about it, but it seems not unlikely that it may be of considerable antiquity.

## CYNELAFES STONE

Oxfordshire, 38 N.W. or S.W.? Parish of Shifford. 116.

Site uncertain.

This stone—Cynelafes stan—is mentioned as a bound-mark in a grant of land to Eynsham Abbey, A.D. 1005; possibly it is the same as "Horestone," c. A.D. 1360. Conjectured (1849) to have stood where the boundary cross between Cote and Shifford opposite the Common gate was then cut.

H. E. Salter, *Cartulary of Eynsham* (Oxf. Hist. Soc., I., 23; II., 5; III., 343.)

B. Williams, *Memorials of the Family of Williams of Cote, in the Parish of Brampton* (1849), p. 31.

## MOUNDS, STANDING STONES, ETC.

### DEVIL'S QUOITS

Oxfordshire, 38 N.E.	Parish of Stanton Harcourt.	117 a.b.c.
Latitude $51^{\circ} 44' 41''$ .	Longitude $1^{\circ} 24' 11''$ (northernmost)	A.
" $51^{\circ} 44' 29''$ .	" $1^{\circ} 24' 23''$	B.
" $51^{\circ} 44' 21''$ .	" $1^{\circ} 24' 16''$ (southernmost)	C.

It has been supposed that these stones are the remains of a circle, but the great diameter necessary (2200 feet) makes this unlikely. The diameter of the great rampart at Avebury is only 1400 feet. A trench on the S.E. side of the road between B.M. 232 and B.M. 229 is marked "old gravel pit" on the Ordnance Map, and being straight can have no connection with any such circle. It is moreover 400 feet distant from the nearest point of the hypothetical circumference.

Mr. E. Thurlow Leeds, M.A., F.S.A., contributes the following note and references:—"The field in which the two northernmost stones stand is called Barrow Hill. There was a large Barrow here [See *Plot*] which was levelled by the grandfather of Mr. Arnatt of Parsonage Farm, Stanton Harcourt, between 1840 and 1850. [Information collected by P. Manning, May 16th, 1902.] Its position as marked on P. Manning's 6 in. map is between the two northernmost stones. The stones stand in ploughed fields." Aubrey records the fact that in 1680 "one was broke down to make a bridge."

R. Plot. *Nat. Hist. of Oxfordshire*, 1677, pp. 326 343.

Gough's *Camden*, 1789, I., 294.

John Aubrey, *Monumenta Britannica*, Bodleian Library. MS. Top. gen. C. 24, f. 67. *Arch.* xxxvii., 431.

*The Car*, No. 72, October 7th, 1903, p. 196.

Hearne's *Collections* (O.H.S.), III., 403.

*Manning MS* (Ashmolean Museum).

*Folklore*, vi., 1895, p. 10 (Sir Arthur Evans).

### FOUR SHIRE STONE

Oxfordshire, 7 S.E.		118.
Latitude $51^{\circ} 59' 14''$ .	Longitude $1^{\circ} 39' 50''$ .	Height above O.D. 415 feet.

This landmark is the point at which the counties of Oxfordshire, Gloucestershire, Warwickshire and Worcestershire meet. There are no



THE NORTHERN QUOIT (A)  
Stanton Harcourt





## OXFORDSHIRE

reasons for supposing it to stand on the site of a prehistoric monument, but it is not unlikely that it does so.

Gough's *Camden*, Vol. I., 1806, p. 407.

Jabez Allies; *The British, Roman and Saxon Antiquities and Folklore of Worcestershire*; second edition, 1856, pp. 85-7.

## HAWK STONE

Oxfordshire, 20 N.E.

Parish of Spelsbury.

119.

Latitude  $51^{\circ} 54' 32''$ . Longitude  $1^{\circ} 30' 25''$ . Height above O.D. about 550 feet.

This is a single standing stone, situated on high ground in a ploughed field exactly a mile N.E. by N. of Chadlington Church. It is marked on the O.S. map (edition of 1900). Ploughing is carried on right up to the base of the stone. Many large oolitic slates lie round about, and there are distinct signs of a low mound all round the base of the stone. The stone is a stratified block, the grain of the stone being oriented E. and W. The following measurements made by the late Percy Manning, M.A., F.S.A., are contributed by Mr. E. Thurlow Leeds, M.A., F.S.A.:—Height, 7 ft.; north face, at base, 2 ft. 11 ins., at 5 ft., 2 ft. 5 ins.; east face, at base, 2 ft. 6 ins., at  $4\frac{1}{2}$  ft., 2 ft. 7 ins. The stone is perforated near the top and much pitted and weathered all over.

I have no doubt that this stone, like others in the district existing or destroyed, was formerly part of a chambered structure, such as remains at Enstone. See illustration facing p. 113. Visited October 19th, 1922.

J. Beesley, *History of Banbury*, p. 8.

*Trans. Oxfordshire Arch. Soc.*, 1899, p. 49.

*Manning MSS.* (Ashmolean Museum, Oxford). Sketches of N. and E. faces.

## HOAR STONE

Oxfordshire, 22 N.W. Parish of Steeple Barton.

121.

Latitude  $51^{\circ} 54' 48''$ . Longitude  $1^{\circ} 20' 04''$ . Height above O.D. between 300 and 400 feet.

This stone which is marked on the O.S. map is a single huge prostrate slab, 11 ft. long, 7 ft. 6 ins. wide and about 3 ft. thick. It appears to have been partially uncovered by digging away the earth all round the edge. This, and the action of rabbits, has revealed a few oolitic slates, and there are suggestive signs of piled up material round it. It is not however

## MOUNDS, STANDING STONES, Etc.

possible to state definitely by mere inspection whether there are the remains of a mound, though I incline to this view. The stone itself appears to consist of a reddish ferruginous sandstone of the same colour and character as the broken pile near by (see p. 162). The stone is situated at the southern end of a short avenue on the south side of the road through the park to Barton Abbey. The avenue commences immediately opposite the entrance to Barton Lodge. The river Dorn flows at the foot of the hill on which the stone lies, immediately to the west of it.

### HOAR STONE SPINNEY

Oxfordshire, 22 S.W.      Parish of Kirtlington.      122.

Latitude 51° 53' 26".    Longitude 1° 16' 18".    Height above O.D. about 340 feet.

The following note is contributed by Mr. E. Thurlow Leeds, M.A., F.S.A. :—" P. Manning, M.A., F.S.A., recorded in 1896 that a copse on the E. edge of Avesditch, where it crosses the Portway in Kirtlington Parish is called ' Hoar Stone Spinney ' and surmised the former existence of a ' dolmen ' or burial chamber as at Enstone and Barton Abbey (Steeple Barton). The name is marked on the Ordnance Map." The co-ordinates given above refer to B.M. 343·8 at the cross-roads.

*Berks., Bucks. and Oxon. Journal*, IV., 22.

### ASTHALL

Oxfordshire, 31 N.W.      Parish of Asthall.      125.

The following note is contributed by Mr. E. Thurlow Leeds, M.A., F.S.A. :—" Plot mentions a stone as still (in 1705) lying on a bank near Akeman Street ' not far from Asthall Barrow.' " This round Barrow is 4300 feet S.S.E. of Asthall Church, and more than half a mile from the nearest point of the Roman road.

R. Plot. *Nat. Hist. of Oxfordshire* (1705), p. 333.

### ' LANGEN HLÆW '

Oxfordshire.      126.

Mentioned as a boundary-mark in a grant to Eynsham Abbey, A.D. 1005, " andlang mores on *langen hlaew*."

H. E. Salter, *Cartulary of Eynsham*, I., 23.

## OXFORDSHIRE

### CUDDESDON

Oxfordshire 40. S.E. Parish of Cuddesdon. 127.

Two standing stones observed and visited by Mr. Angus Graham, March, 1913; photograph of one and sketch of the second sent to P. Manning. According to letter from A. G. to E. T. Leeds, September 17th, 1920, (See Manning MSS) with rough sketch map, situated south of footpath from Denton to bridge across R. Thames from Cuddesdon towards Great Milton; one near river, other in next field northward. Both about 4 ft. high, on sloping ground. A. G. observes position of lower stone as about at limit of lands liable to flood.

*P. Manning MSS.* (Ashmolean Museum). Position marked on Ordnance Survey Map.

### TASTON

Oxfordshire, 21 N.W. Parish of Spelsbury. 128.

Latitude  $51^{\circ} 53' 44''$ . Longitude  $1^{\circ} 28' 40''$ . Height above O.D. about 450 feet.

The following note is contributed by Mr. E. Thurlow Leeds, M.A., F.S.A.:—"A stone situated in hamlet of Taston near the junction of the road from Spelsbury to Enstone and a bye-road running eastwards through the hamlet, on N. side of latter road.

"It stands on the slope of a bank falling westwards.

"Height, W. face, 7 ft. 5 ins; width at base, 1 ft. 5 ins.; at 4 ft., 1 ft. 7 ins.; at top, 1 ft. 4 ins.

"Width, N. face, at level of E. edge, 2 ft. 6 ins.; at 4 ft., 2 ft.; at 5 ft., 1 ft. 2 ins.

"Width, S. face, at level of W. edge, 2 ft. 6 ins.; at 3 ft., 2 ft. 2 ins.; at c. 4 ft., 1 ft. 8 ins.

"Height E. face, at S. edge, 6 ft. 5 ins.; at N. edge, 6 ft. 4 ins.

"Jordan drags in 'Torstan' with no evidence (*e.g.* not in Domesday) and in 1909 Mr. P. Manning was told locally by an old woman that it was set up by one 'Thor' and that 'it was in history.' " Possibly it is the base of a mediæval cross; it is now marked in mediæval characters on the O.S. map.

Rev. J. Jordan, *History of Enstone*, 1857, p. 9, 34. ("Torstan" *incorrect*) and 267.

*Manning MSS.* (Ashmolean Museum, Oxford) rough sketches of three faces and measurements.

## MOUNDS, STANDING STONES, Etc.

### THE FOUR STONES

Radnorshire, 25 S.W.      Parish of Walton and Womaston.    129.

Latitude  $52^{\circ} 14' 23''$ .      Longitude  $3^{\circ} 6' 16''$ .

The following account is taken from the *Report of the Royal Commission* (County of Radnor, 1913, item 615 B, pp. 148-9, figs. 64, 65):—

“ Four large monoliths, standing on the circumference of a rude circle, or at the corners of an irregular square, within a few yards of the cottage to which they have given their name. They have been conjectured to have formed the supports of a cromlech, but the area enclosed is too great for any covering-stone.” After giving measurements of the stones and their distance apart, the Report continues:—“ They are clearly of glacial origin, and were probably deposited fortuitously in their present position countless ages ago. A similar stone, possibly not a member of the group, but one that may have rested on the hill to the south, was utilised for religious observances by being formed into a font of the church of Old Radnor. (No. 553).”

It is stated that the name “ Four Stones ” is met with in a will of the year 1652 (*Arch. Camb.* 6 S. XI, 105). Visited July 28th, 1910.

Though possibly natural in *origin* I cannot, from the photograph, believe these stones to be natural in *position*. It seems incredible that they can have been deposited so regularly and in an upright position. It seems more reasonable to suppose that they are the remains of a burial-circle like Duddo Four Stones in Northumberland.

*Archæologia Cambrensis*, 1911, 6 S. XI, 105.

### THE GIANT'S GRAVE

Radnorshire, 16 N.E.      Parish of Llanddewi Ystrad Enni.    130.

Latitude  $52^{\circ} 18' 58''$ .      Longitude  $3^{\circ} 19' 6''$ .

The following account is taken from the *Report of the Royal Commission* (Report on County of Radnor, 1913, item 295, p. 73):—

“ It may be well to state that the object shown on the Ordnance Sheet under this title is a natural outcrop of rock, upon which a quantity of loose stones has been collected.”

## SHROPSHIRE

### MURDER FIELD STILE

\*Shropshire, 66 S.E.      Parish of Highley.      130a.

Latitude  $52^{\circ} 27' 05''$ .      Longitude  $2^{\circ} 23' 58''$ .      Height above O.D. about 240 feet.

These two stones stand side by side on the south side of the road between Highley and Billingsley, between the Hag and New England. They are on the geological formation known as coal-measures (O.S.), and if authentic are unique amongst megalithic remains hitherto investigated by me in standing on this formation. For information about them I am indebted to Mr. Barke, of Stoke-on-Trent, who first drew my attention to their existence, and to Mr. Eardley, Manager of the Highley Mining Company, who kindly fixed their position on the map. As I have not visited the site I cannot give an independent opinion, but from a photograph the stones have the appearance of being the portal of a burial-chamber. The name of the field supports this view—"Murder Field"; it is derived according to information given to Mr. Eardley, from a crime committed many years ago. It is highly probable that this is a piece of folklore; and that the story of the crime arose from the discovery of skeletons near the stones, but there is no evidence of any such discovery and the explanation suggested is therefore purely theoretical.

Measurements provided by Mr. Barke are as follows:—

1. Perforated stone, of a fine white grit, unlike any local stone known to Mr. Barke; height, 2 ft. 9 ins.; width, 3 ft. 6 ins.; thickness,  $7\frac{1}{2}$  ins.
2. Standing stone, of a local red sandstone; height, 4 ft. 6 ins.; thickness, 6 ins.

Mr. Barke adds that in his opinion "the upright stone has no connection with the holed one, but has simply been erected as a gate-post." Perhaps the strongest argument against the antiquity of the remains is the absence of any megalithic monuments in the region. Further investigations are evidently needed.

In addition to the well-known perforated stone in Cornwall, the "Men-an-Tol," only one other is known in England, "The Devil's

\* While this book is in the press two other possible sites have come to my notice in this county, in that part of it included on sheet 8:—a long mound at Wentnor, reported by Miss Chitty; and a stone circle at Pen-y-wern,  $1\frac{1}{2}$  miles south-east of Clun. I have not had time to visit either.



## MOUNDS, STANDING STONES, Etc.

Ring and Finger" on Windy Arbour Farm, near Norton-in-Hales (Staffordshire, 9 S.E.) It is referred to in the *Proceedings of the North Staffordshire Field Club*, Vol. XLIII., 1909, p. 195. Each of these stones is 6 ft. high ; and an illustration appears as the frontispiece of Vol. XLVI. of the same proceedings. An account of perforated stones associated with megalithic burial-chambers is given by Monsieur Léon Coutil in the *Mémoires de la Société Préhistorique française*, Vol IV., 1919. ["Allée couverte de Vaudancourt (Oise), fouilles de 1918-19 ; étude sur les allées couvertes avec cloisons perforées de l'Oise, Seine-et-Oise et de l'Eure."]

*Antiq. Journ.*, IV. 1924, pp. 405-6 (photographs p. 406).

### LONG COMPTON

Warwickshire, 59 N.W. Parish of Long Compton. 131.

Stukeley says :—" In the same Plate ['Abury,' Plates 3 and 5] may be seen another barrow, but circular, below the road to the left hand, on the side of the hill. Under it is a spring head running eastward to Long Compton. This barrow has had stone-work at the east end of it." I was unable to find any signs of this barrow, but had no opportunity of making an exhaustive search.

### GREEN BARROW

Wiltshire, 19 N.E. Parish of Leigh Delamere. 132.

Latitude  $51^{\circ} 29' 57''$ . Longitude  $2^{\circ} 12' 38''$ . Height above O.D. 400 feet.

Scrope says :—" There existed up to a very recent period, when it was levelled by the owner of the field, a large oblong barrow called Green Barrow, which is spoken of by Aubrey as known in his time by the name of Hubba's Lowe". . . . This last statement is incorrect. Aubrey's "Hubba's Lowe" was the Lanhill Barrow, q.v.

Mr. A. D. Passmore visited the site of this barrow on May 17th, 1924 and reported as follows :—" At the spot marked [by a cross on the O.S. map] there is a long oval rise, very slight but obvious ; it is now under grass with a permanent fowl-shed upon it, also a thick-set hedge and road across it. An old man of seventy, who came there in 1863 remembered nothing." Scrope wrote in 1852 and the barrow had been levelled before then.

Scrope, *Hist. of Castle Combe*, 1852, p. 9.

## WILTSHIRE

### "SOLDIER'S GRAVE"

Wiltshire, 12 S.E. Parish of Hullavington. 133.

Latitude  $51^{\circ} 32' 12''$ . Longitude  $2^{\circ} 10' 40''$ . Height above O.D. about 350 feet.

Mr. Passmore says (May 17th, 1924) :—" On the right margin of Sheet 12 S.E. is a road going north ; at B.M. 346.5 is a gate with a new cottage ; forty yards west of that is a large slab standing up, but deeply buried in the ground, 7 ft. long and about  $3\frac{1}{2}$  ft. high and  $1\frac{1}{2}$  ft. thick. It is mentioned by Jackson, p. 115. I saw this ten years ago, but had forgotten exactly where it was. On asking for a big stone in a field they immediately said 'Oh, the gentleman means the Soldier's Grave.' This, taken together with the appearance of the stone, makes me have no doubt that Jackson is correct and that it is the remains of a dolmen."

The latitude and longitude given above are approximate only.

*The Topographical Collections* of John Aubrey, F.R.S., A.D. 1659-70, corrected and enlarged by J. E. Jackson, M.A., F.S.A., Devizes, 1862, p. 115.

### SURRENDELL FARM BARROW

Wiltshire, 12 S.E. Parish of Hullavington. 134.

Latitude  $51^{\circ} 32' 11''$ . Longitude  $2^{\circ} 11' 6''$ . Height above O.D. about 350 feet.

Mr. Passmore says (May 17th, 1924) :—" The road south of and touching Surrendell Farm comes out in a field to the west ; on the left is a hedge ; measure from the end of the hedge 90 yards in a direction slightly south of west. Here is a long low mound, 117 by 30 feet and about 3 feet high. It is very regularly shaped ; and the curious part is that it has side ditches which do not reach the ends and therefore do not go round the ends. It is in fact a model Long Barrow except for its flatness ; it is oriented due north and south and there is no sign of stones on it. I am convinced that it is a Long Barrow."

The latitude and longitude given above are approximate only.

### KING AND QUEEN STONES

Worcestershire, 48 S.E. Parish of Bredon's Norton 135.

Latitude  $52^{\circ} 2' 45''$ . Longitude  $2^{\circ} 4' 46''$ . Height above O.D. about 540 feet.

These appear to be natural rocks or crags. Canon Ingram gives no description and I have not visited the site.

## MOUNDS, STANDING STONES, ETC.

Dr. Bird says:—"On Bredon Hill a mound like a Long Barrow is seen, and some heaps very like round tumuli on its southern end." This can have no connection with these stones, however, as at first seemed likely.

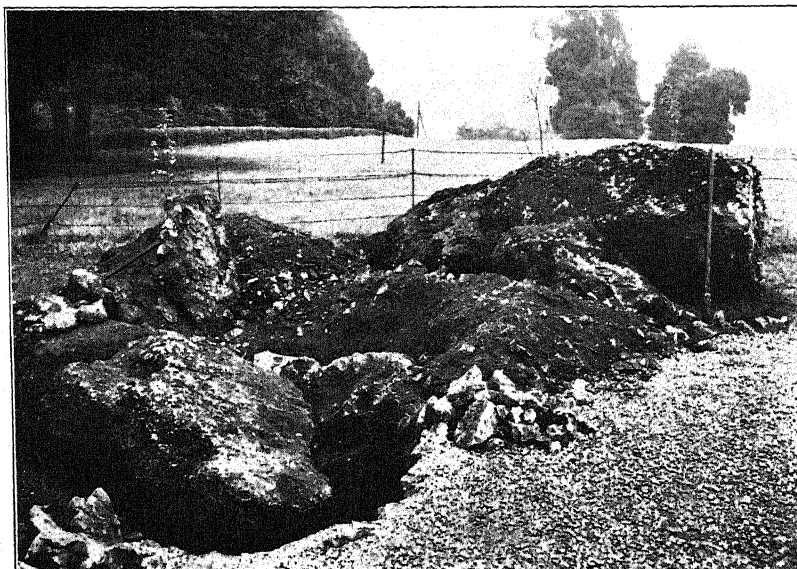
*Trans. B. and G.A.S.* ix, 1884-5, p. 22 (Canon Ingram).

*Journ. Anthropol. Soc.*, iii, 1865, p. LXX (Dr. Bird).

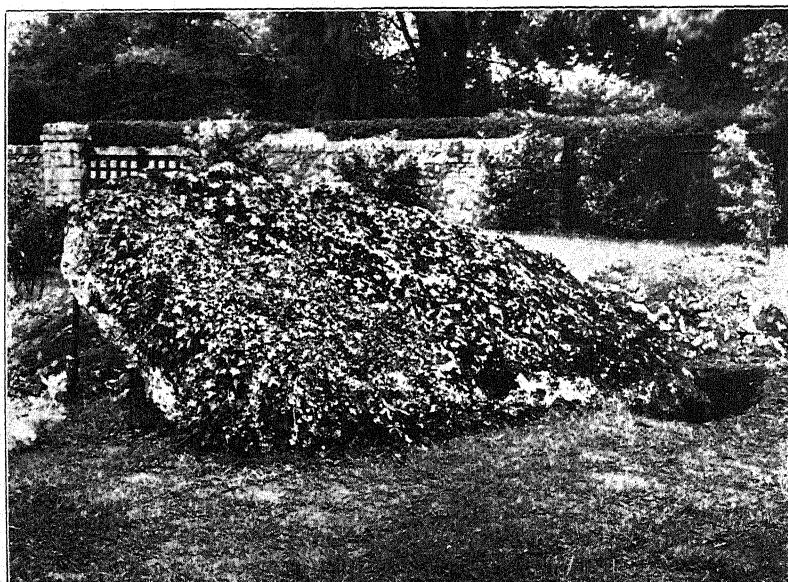
## APPENDIX

The following sites, though not actually within the area of Sheet 8, belong geographically to the Cotswold region. It seems desirable, therefore, to add them for the sake of completeness. It is hoped that by this addition all the known Long Barrows in Gloucestershire have been dealt with; and also those, such as Lugbury and Lanhill, which belong to the Cotswolds rather than to Wiltshire.

DRUID STOKE



General view at the time of uncovering (1913)



The Great Stone



## APPENDIX — GLOUCESTERSHIRE

### “DRUIDICAL STONES”

Gloucestershire, 77 N.E.      Parish of Marshfield.

These stones are marked on the 1830 edition of the 1 in. O.S. maps but do not appear on subsequent editions. Before visiting the neighbourhood I copied the site from the 1 in. to the 6 in. map as nearly as could be done considering the wide difference in the scales. But I found on my return that I had not done so quite accurately. The site marked on the 1 in. map lies on the brow of the hill, immediately east of the footpath running N.N.E. from Beck's Cottages (*not* Beek's Lane which runs  $\frac{1}{4}$  mile further west, but parallel to it). Possibly some remains may still exist on the brow of the hill which I did not explore. The fact that the remains were omitted from later editions of the O.S. maps proves nothing.

On the occasion of my visit I found many fairly large stones lying at the foot of the steep and almost precipitous slope on which Trull's Wood lies. These have evidently become detached from the slope and rolled to the foot, where they seem to have been arranged so as to form part of a small boundary bank, now disused. There is however, no archæological interest yet attached to them. If it is these stones which have been called “druidical,” the case is exactly analogous with the fictitious stone circle south of Cheltenham (see No. 81 Blackhedge Farm, p 188).

In the same field lower down are a number of small long mounds. They are not Long Barrows and may be natural. It would be interesting and easy to determine their nature by excavation. They run up and down the slope. One which I measured was 15 paces long and 7 wide. They recall the Giant's Grave at Wye, Kent, both in shape and position.

### DRUID STOKE BURIAL-CHAMBER

Gloucestershire, 71 N.E.      Parish of Westbury-on-Trym.

Latitude  $51^{\circ} 28' 57''$ .      Longitude  $2^{\circ} 37' 56''$ .      Height above O.D. 138 feet.

Seyer (1821) says :—“ It consists of one large stone and three small . . . [The large stone] is  $10\frac{1}{2}$  ft. in length,  $2\frac{1}{2}$  ft. thick and  $5\frac{1}{2}$  ft. at the broadest. It has been thrown down and having fallen on one of the smaller stones, which stood beneath, it partly rests upon it and is pre-

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vented from lying flat on the ground. . . . Of the three smaller stones, the first has already been mentioned as supporting the great stone ; it is about three feet above the ground. Another lies close to it westward, and the third a few feet distant north-westward ; the two last are broken off close to the ground, or they may be fragments separated when the great stone fell down. That which was its northern or north-eastern face when it stood upright, which now lies nearest to the ground, is tolerably smooth and of the natural colour of the stone ; all other parts are eaten into deep holes by the action of the weather, and are slightly covered with moss and the colour is dark and dirty. The stone is a mill-stone grit [*but see below*], or breccia, and was probably brought from the foot of Kingsweston Hill, about a mile distant, where numbers of the same sort, although not of equal size, still lie scattered on the ground, and many more were formerly to be seen until Mr. F. collected them for the foundation of his house."

Mr. M. H. Scott (1904) says:—"Miss Munro, whose father, William Munro, Esq., formerly owned Druid's Stoke, says:—'In my recollection, once a year a body of men calling themselves Druids, with a priest (?) dressed in wonderful garments, used to hold a service at the Druid's Stone.' On my asking at what time of the year this occurred she says:—'I am almost sure that the Druids' ceremony took place in the spring before the grass was put up for mowing. I have a dim recollection that the Druids wished to have the ceremony later, but were told that they could not be allowed to tread down the growing grass, as they came in considerable numbers.' " There is an unsigned, undated sketch attached to this account. The ceremony was doubtless a modern affair without any traditional significance.

The following account of excavations is given by Mr. F. Were (1913):—"Permission having been granted to the [Bristol and Gloucestershire Archæological] Society by Mr. Featherstone Witty, owner of the so-called cromlech at Druid Stoke, to make what examination it pleased of the partially-buried stones forming component parts of the cromlech, work under the direction of the Hon. Secretary for Bristol [Mr. Lewis J. U. Way, F.S.A.] and Mr. Francis Were was commenced on September 8th, 1913. Four stones were visible, the great table stone, which we will call No. 1, leaning against No. 2, which it was considered advisable to leave entirely alone for fear of bringing No. 1 completely to the ground. No. 3, of which but little could be seen, lies in front of No. 2, the north

## GLOUCESTERSHIRE

end of it touching the gravel drive in front of the house. No. 3 was first dealt with by clearing the earth away from it on every side ; when cleared it was revealed as a large stone, with a curious ledge upon its upper part, the whole lying upon its side. The following measurements were taken : length, 6 ft. 10 ins. ; height, taken in three places, 3 ft. 9 ins., 4 ft. 5 ins., and 2 ft. 3 ins. ; depth, 1 ft. 3 ins. ; circumference, 17 ft. 8 ins. The shortest distance from the corner of the stone touching the drive to the wall of the house is 26 ft. 6 ins. Adjoining No. 3 on the south is No. 4 (shown in the photograph propped up on end). This appeared to be a large stone, as a good deal was visible above ground. However, on clearing away the soil it was found to be much smaller than No. 3, and of no thickness. The measurements are :—length 3 ft. 8 ins ; breadth, 2 ft. 4 ins. ; depth, 7 ins. ; circumference, 4 ft. 6 ins. Its north end was found to be resting on a fifth stone hitherto buried. The weight of No. 4 was not so great as to prevent its being raised and set on end by the united strength of those present, giving them room to excavate the new discovery, No. 5, which was deeply buried exactly in the middle of the other stones. As it lies, the probable base points eastward and the top westward. It measures 3 ft. 8 ins. in length and 1 ft. 2 ins., in breadth. It was not found possible to take the circumference. A slight trench only was dug on the south side of No. 1, the measurements of which are : length, 10 ft. 4 ins. ; breadth in three places, 4 ft. 10 ins., 5 ft. 6 ins., and 3 ft. 9 ins. ; while in depth it varies from 2 ft. to 2 ft. 7 ins.

“ The position of the overturned stones, we think, shows that when No. 1, or the table stone [capstone], was overthrown it came from an easterly to a south-easterly alignment, while No. 3 was slued round to the north, and lay almost flat on its side. No. 5, the deeply buried stone, when standing on its base probably supported the south-east corner of the table stone. Seyer conjectures that No. 1 stood upright with No. 3 in front ; but it is too near the stone it rests upon, No. 2, to have fallen from that position, and if so, this number must have included the fragile, propped up one, No. 4, which is too weak in size and quality to help bear the weight of No. 1, but was more probably the base or side of a cist ; in fact, all that has been left of one which might have been rifled at the over-turning centuries ago. About a foot and a half below the surface of the ground rough cobble-like stones tightly packed together were found. A resident in the locality told us that this characteristic obtains over all parts of the field (now gardens) which have been dug into.

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"Seyer seems rightly to have diagnosed the stones as breccia, and not millstone grit, as it is poor in quality compared with the dolomitic conglomerate of the Mendips, and therefore is probably local. Professor Lloyd Morgan says it is dolomitic conglomerate from Henbury; but Seyer thinks they came from King's Weston Down, where he says many of them were to be seen, but of smaller size, which Mr. Farr collected for the foundation of his house.

"The members of the Council who viewed the positions of the stones were divided in opinion as to whether the table-stone rested upon three or four upright stones. It certainly was not a monolith as illustrated by Seyer. Photographs were taken of the uncovered stones, prints of which are appended to this report. [See plate facing p. 223; another view is shown on the plate facing p. 199]. The work took three days altogether. By desire of the owner of the stones, they are all left visible to the eye, but otherwise remain *in situ*."

I am indebted to Mr. A. T. Wicks for some of these references.

Seyer's *Bristol*, 1821, Vol. I., 103 (figured).

*Proc. Bath Field Club*, Vol. x., 1904, 319 (Mr. M. H. Scott).

*Trans. B. and G.A.S.*, Vol. xxxvi., 1913, pp. 217-19 (Plate opp. p. 217) Mr. Were.

## WICK BURIAL CHAMBER

Gloucestershire, 77 N.W.      Parish of Wick.

Latitude  $51^{\circ} 26' 41''$ . Longitude  $2^{\circ} 25' 24''$ . Height above O.D. between 200 and 300 feet.

This burial-chamber now stands in a ploughed field (under grass at the time of my visit, January 29th, 1924); it consists of two uprights and one prostrate stone, probably the fallen upright. The latter has apparently been exposed by digging; round it is much oolite burnt red, and some charcoal. There are evident signs of a mound, but no indications as to its shape.

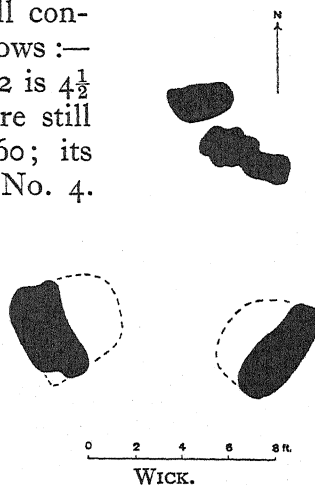
Rudder says:—"There is a field in this parish called the Chestles or Castles [Chessells on the Tithe map of 1845], where are three large stones about 5 ft. high from the ground, drawn thither from the cliffs below, and placed upright pretty near together, in a triangular form. They are without inscriptions, but one of them having been taken down, at the foot of it were found some old coins."

Seyer says:—"In the parish of Wick and Abson. . . . are some

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stones set upright, on a low mound of earth 12 ft. diameter, the top of which is not more than 2 ft. above the level of the field. The plate annexed gives a view of ground-plan of this small construction; the dimensions of the stones are as follows:—No. 1 is  $5\frac{1}{2}$  ft. high,  $1\frac{1}{4}$  thick and  $4\frac{1}{4}$  wide; No. 2 is  $4\frac{1}{2}$  ft. high, 2 ft. thick and  $3\frac{3}{4}$  wide; these two are still standing. No. 3 was standing about the year 1760; its fragments still remain, as do the fragments of No. 4. They are in the middle of a large ploughed field called the Chissels.”

After the visit to this site of the Bath Field Club on March 8th, 1887, the following notes were set on record (Vol. vi., 357):—“The field in which the cromlech is situated lies to the N.E. of [Cold Harbour] Farm and adjoins that in which the Club some years ago excavated a Roman villa. Two stones alone remain now, but Mr. Darry, the lord of the manor, had been superintending some excavations here in the morning, and had uncovered the portion of a third from which two other large blocks had been broken off, according to Mr. Mathews, some 42 years ago, and are now lying in the hedge. The stones are dolomitic conglomerate and probably have been brought from some distance, as that rock does not occur close at hand.” I am indebted to Mr. A. T. Wicks for the references.



From a plan in the Lukis Collection, Guernsey. 1:100

Rudder's *Gloucestershire*, 1779, p. 211.

Seyer's *Bristol*, 1821, Vol. i., p. 101.

Sir Robert Atkyns' *Hist. of Gloucestershire*.

*Trans. B. and G.A.S.*, xxix., 1906, p. 59.

*Proc. Bath Field Club*, i., Pt. 2, p. 1. (1867-8); iv., 1880, p. 291; vi., pp. 357 (quoted above), 242.

Visited by the Bath Field Club, May 6th, 1859; Nov. 15th. 1862; Oct. 13th, 1865; April 1st, 1873; March 30th, 1880; March 8th, 1887.

## THREE SHIRE STONES

At junction of Somerset, Gloucestershire and Wiltshire, and of parishes of Batheaston, Marshfield and Colerne.

Latitude  $51^{\circ} 25' 42''$ . Longitude  $2^{\circ} 17' 35''$ . Height above O.D. 619 feet.

These stones stand in an alcove in the wall on the east side of the



## APPENDIX

Foss Way, two miles north of the village of Batheaston. They are all megalithic and consist of three uprights supporting a capstone. Inside this "cove" are three smaller stones, one, evidently a broken boundary stone bearing the date 1736, surmounted by a capital "S." The capstone is about 6 by 4 by 2 ft. On the 2 in. MS map of the district at the Ordnance Survey (dated 1813-14), is annexed the description "Shire Stones, erected 1736." There must however have been some monument here before that date, for Stukeley writing in 1723 says:—" . . . Then to the Shire Stones, at the division between Gloucestershire, Wilts. and Somerset." The present structure is evidently a modern imitation of a "dolmen," and it stands on the side of the causeway of the road, being therefore certainly later than it. In Stukeley's days it seems unlikely that any recognizable burial-chamber was in existence or he would surely have described it. It seems not unlikely however, that some such monument existed formerly and was adopted as a bound-mark, like the Four Shire Stone (see p. 212). Visited January, 1924.

Stukeley, *It. Cur.* I. 1724, 146.

Rudder's *Gloucestershire*, 1779, p. 538 (under Marshfield).

*Trans. Bath Field Club.* II. 493 (mention of a visit Feb. 13th, 1862).

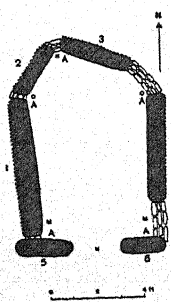
## LANHILL BARROW

Wiltshire, 19 S.E.

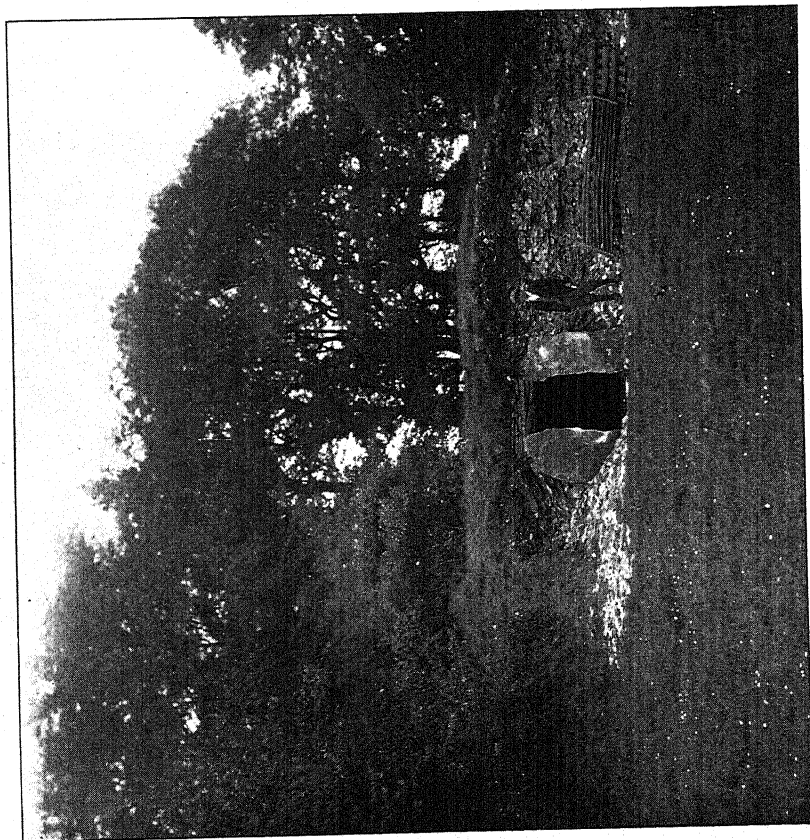
Parish of Chippenham.

Latitude  $51^{\circ} 28' 15''$ . Longitude  $2^{\circ} 10' 36''$ . Height above O.D.

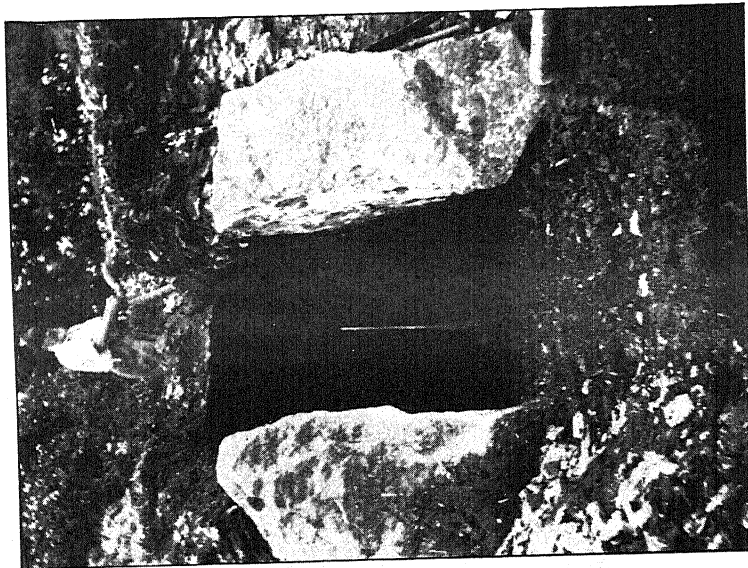
Mrs. Cunnington (in *W.A.M.*, xxxviii), gives the following account:—" . . . On Barrow Hill, sometimes called 'Hubba's Low,' Length about 160 ft. (Thurnam); E. and W. chambered. This large stone-built barrow has long been used more or less as a quarry. In 1855 Thurnam made some excavations in it, and found two chambers with remains of skeletons, but they seem to have been previously disturbed. In 1909 a chamber was accidentally discovered by men digging stone from the mound; it was built of six large slabs of stone, with the spaces between them filled in with dry walling, and a corbelled roof of similar stones. Lying in a confused heap within the chamber were the remains of not fewer than eleven individuals. Steps have been taken to protect this chamber, and it may be seen still intact.



Plan of chamber,  
LANHILL.  
After Mrs. Cunnington  
(1909). 1:100



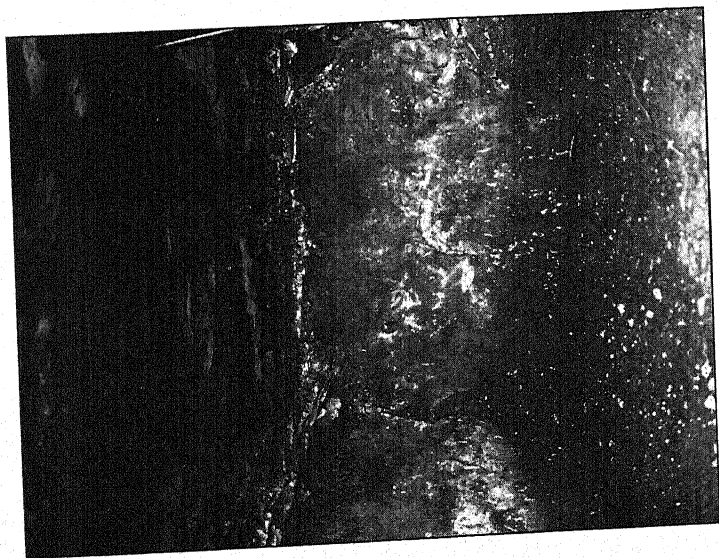
LANHILL  
General view



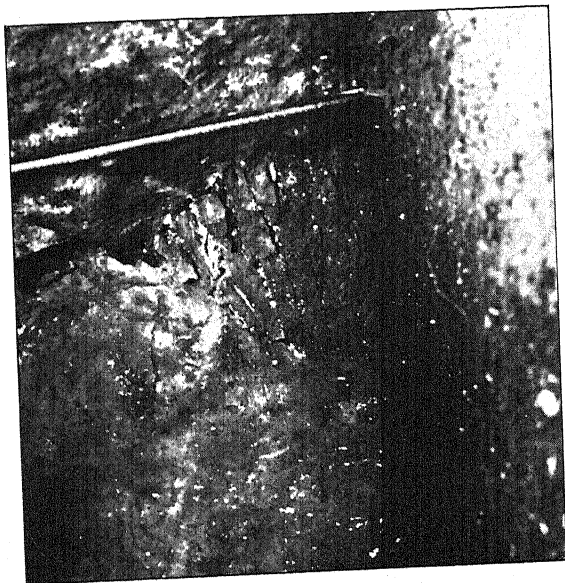
LANHILL  
Entrance to chamber



LANHILL BARROW



Interior of chamber



Another view of same,  
showing dry walling in corner







## WILTSHIRE

"Thurnam's description, written in 1866, of this once fine barrow, applies to it equally well to-day. 'At present the mound has the appearance of several irregular hillocks, in part grown over with thorns and briars, resembling somewhat the site of an old quarry.'"

Aubrey (fol. 58) says:—"Hubba's Low, commonly known by the name of Barrow-hill, where they say one Hubba lies buried. This monument is 60 paces long; it is raised of small stone-brash stones, such as the fields hereabout doe plentifully yield: and is covered with earth a quarter of a foot thick, which I came to know by the tenant who thought to have digged doune this Hill for the earth, that lay on the land. A, a, a, [in Aubrey's plan, not the one reproduced] are the pits where stones were digged. Perhaps heretofore here might have been some stones at the great end as in the former [Lugbury].

"MR. WOOD.—I leave it to you to give the name to this sepulchre, whether Hubbas-lowe or Barrow-hill. Sir Charles Snell of Kington St. Michael told me of it in 1646 or 1647, and said it was Hubba's low. He shewed me then an old *Stow's Chronicle* of the first edition in a thick 8vo. or rather 4to which mentioned it, wch. see, but *Caxton's Chron.* makes him to be buried in Devonshire which I presume is an errour. This Barrow-hill belongs to Allington in the parish of Chipenham and belonged to my kind friend the Honble Charles Seymour, Esq., of Allington (since his father's death) Ld. Seymour, father to the Duke of Somerset."

The discoveries made in 1909 were superintended by Captain and Mrs. Cunnington, to whom, as well as to the Wiltshire Archæological Society, I am indebted for permission to reproduce the plan shown on p. 228. There is of course no foundation for the tale about Hubba, nor is there any reason whatever to associate him with this barrow. There is no evidence that the name "Hubba's Low" has ever been current locally. It is in the highest degree unlikely that, even had it been so for a time, it survived from the days of Hubba. The whole myth seems to have been invented by Sir Charles Snell.

Aubrey, *Monumenta Britannica*, fol. 57b 58, 60.

R. Colt Hoare, *Ancient Wilts*, II., 99.

*Arch.* XLII., 203.

*W.A.M.* III., 67 (Thurnam, 1856); XXXVI., 300-310 (Cunnington, 1909.) XXXVIII., 388 (Cunnington, 1914).

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### LUGBURY

Wiltshire, 19 N.W.      Parish of Nettleton.

Latitude  $51^{\circ} 30' 18''$ .      Longitude  $2^{\circ} 14' 38''$ .      Height above O.D. 400 feet.

Aubrey says :—" LUGBURY. Lugbury is in a field in the parish of Nettleton, but near to Littleton Drew in Wiltshire, over against the ruins of the Castle of Castlecomb ; at the east end of this barrow is a great table-stone of bastard freestone leaning on two picked perpendicular stones ; I suppose it was heretofore borne up by two more such stones like the legges of a table. Neer to this stone was a little round barrow, before it was ploughed away, since A° Dmi 1630." Attached to this account is a rough sketch of the barrow from the south side.

The barrow was excavated by Sir Richard Colt Hoare, 11th October, 1821. His manuscript account is preserved in the Library of the Wiltshire Archæological Society at Devizes, and I am indebted to the officers of the Society for facilities in examining this account. It was published up to the words "on the ground" in the *Gentleman's Magazine*, but some important additional notes were omitted. The following is a summary with verbatim extracts :—

Colt Hoare had noticed the " cromlech " while investigating the Foss-way. Work was begun on October 8th, John Parker being his chief spade-man. A trench was made along the long axis of the mound, care being taken not to disturb the standing stones, where Colt Hoare expected (but probably wrongly) the interment was. Keeping near "the surface of the natural soil, or according to our old phrase, the floor of the barrow," he found that it was "covered with a layer of large flat stones, other sides were protected with similar layers: a wall of the same kind of stone was formed near the Kistvaen at the eastern extremity of the tumulus." This was probably the re-entrant "horns" of the surrounding wall. On the third day [Oct. 10th] he found two joints of finger bones about 30 feet from the eastern extremity of the barrow. "In the meantime" (while operations were temporarily suspended) "the Rev. Mr. Skinner. . . and Mr. Philip Crocker. . . were employed in taking exact measurements, drawings, etc of this barrow." Thirty feet west of the interment a wall was found running N. and S. across the barrow. Work was then begun from the western end of the barrow. Nothing, however, was found but some bits of charcoal. What follows is omitted from the published account.



LUGBURY, looking west



## WILTSHIRE

"We now began to uncover the deposit we had uncovered with the greatest nicety. . . . This sepulchral deposit displayed the skeleton (apparently of a young man) with its knees gathered up towards the head, a mode of burial which I consider as the most ancient of any we have found." Sketch 5 in the MS gives a plan of the skeleton. "This skeleton was deposited in a cist or grave, about 2 ft. in depth, lying on its side, in a direction nearly east and west,\* the legs drawn up, so that the knees were on a level with the hips—the right hand placed on the breast—the left hand in a parallel line with the thigh : near the head was discovered a small pointed instrument of flint† about an inch and a half in length. . "

Sketch 1 attached to the MS is a ground plan of the barrow, showing it to be 219 feet long and 78 feet wide. Sketch 2 is a view of the stones looking west. Sketch 3 of the same looking east. Sketch 4 is a view of the trench where the skeleton was found. Sketch 5 is a plan of the skeleton. The MS. is not in Colt Hoare's writing, though apparently composed by him. On the back is an addendum in his handwriting signed R.C.H. :—"By the situation of the stones, Plate 3, it is evident that the incumbent large stone has fallen from its original position ; and there is reason to suppose that there was probably another upright stone to support its weight.—R.C.H."

Thurnam wrote in 1856, a long account of this barrow. The following is a summary with verbatim extracts :—

The field in which it stands is called Three Stone Field. Aubrey's sketch shows that the stones at the east end "had the same position as they retain at present." The name Drew in Littleton Drew has no connection with the druids as Aubrey and Hoare imagined ; it is that of the lords of the manor in the 12th century, one of whom is mentioned by name—"Walterus Drew, dominus de Littletone." When examined in 1821, the field in which the barrow stood was under grass ; at some date between then and 1854 it was put under plough and the slopes of the mound consequently much reduced in steepness. "The most remarkable feature is the trilith, or cromlech of three large stones, at the east end, which still give its name to the field. . . . These stones are placed somewhat on the slope of the barrow, about 30 feet from its base. The two uprights, which are 6½ feet apart,‡ are of a flattened pyramidal form,

\* In the margin is written, in Sir R. C. H.'s own handwriting, "Qy—N—S."

† A flake only ; it is drawn here in the MS., and figured in W.A.M., III., 164.

‡ Those at the north end of Belas Knap are 3 feet 10 inches apart.—O.G.S.C.



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about 2 feet thick and 4 wide. That to the south is  $6\frac{1}{2}$  feet in height, that to the north, from which part of the top seems to have been broken, is a foot lower. From recent excavations, made by Mr. Scrope, it is found that these stones are sunk upwards of four feet below the surface. Resting on the ground, and leaning against the western edges of these uprights, is the large table stone, measuring about 12 feet in length, by six in breadth. . . . The stones are altogether rough and unhewn, and are richly covered with time-stains and lichens. Their first inspection suggested the idea that they were the remains of a chamber, such as exists at Stoney Littleton and Uley, but a consideration of their size, and the great height of the uprights above the highest part of the barrow, is sufficient to refute such an opinion."

Colt Hoare's view, that there was an interment under the stones, "has been fully disproved by examinations made in the summer of 1854 and again in September, 1855, when the space between the two uprights was excavated down to the base of the stones, and a considerable trench dug in front of them, by which the red clay of the natural surface was uncovered. A similar excavation was made on the western side of the stones. No traces whatever of human remains were met with; and the only objects found were some trifling fragments of black Roman pottery, a foot or two from the surface; and at a greater depth, in part mixed with the natural soil, a few fragments of bones, tusks and teeth of boars, with one or two rude flakes of black flint. . . . The only likely view which remains is that [these stones] had in reality formed an external structure, such as the French term a dolmen and the English a cromlech, in all probability devoted to pagan sacrificial rites. . . ." A drawing of the flake, more accurate than Colt Hoare's is given on p. 170 "from the object itself, very obligingly lent for this purpose by Mrs. Carrick. The late Dr. Carrick of Clifton was the former owner of the Nettleton property. . . ." Dr. Wallis of Bristol, at that time [1821] a lecturer on anatomy, who was present when the skeleton was exhumed informs us it was evidently that of a young man, the sutures of the skull not being firmly united. . . . The thigh bone measures 18 inches in length.

"In the spring of 1854, the existence of a rude cist on the south side and near the centre of the barrow, containing several skeletons, was brought to light by the plough. Subsequently to this, the proprietor of the field, G. P. Scrope, Esq., M.P., has made a very complete examination, by which a series of four such cists has been discovered. . . . They

## WILTSHIRE

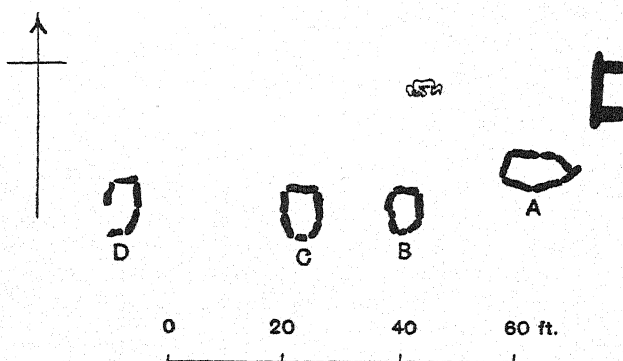
are about ten feet in length, by four in width and two in depth. Their shape is an irregular oblong, and they are formed of large rough flat stones set on edge; there were no covering stones (though it is possible that such may have formerly existed and been removed when the barrow was first subjected to the plough), the cists being filled with stone rubble carelessly thrown in; whilst in the spaces between the cists and elsewhere, the stones forming the barrow had evidently been heaped up by hand. The largest cist nearest to the east is within a few feet of the south-west angle of the cromlech, and has its long axis placed east and west. The three other cists range north and south, and lie somewhat nearer to the edge of the barrow and nearly equidistant from each other. In three of these cists were nine, seven and ten skeletons respectively, there being apparently some distinction of sex and age, as to the cists in which they were found. The bodies must have been packed closely together, in a crouched or sitting posture, and were particularly crowded near the angles of the cists. Their being buried in rough stone rubble made it difficult to ascertain their precise position, or to remove the bones in an entire state. No relics of any other kind were found in the cists; but in the course of the general excavations a flake or two, and a round worked disc,\* of black flint were met with.

"Cist A.—This, it is said, contained seven skeletons; we examined five, all of which appeared to be of women or children, of the ages of about 1, 2, 5, 15 and 50 years of age."

"Cist B.—This appears either never to have been used, or to have been rifled at some period of its contents, not even a fragment of bone being found in it."

"Cist C.—This contained nine skeletons, all apparently males, and of adult age, about 20, 25, 30, 45, 50 and 55 years; two others were those

\* Evidently a scraper.—O.G.S.C.



LUGBURY.

Plan of chambers, after Thurnam,  
*W.A.M.*, III., 1856, 172. 1:400

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of aged persons. There were the fragments of a ninth skull, the fractured edges of which were very sharp and clean, suggesting the idea of having been cleft during life, but they may possibly have been broken after interment, by the falling in of one of the side-stones of the cist."

"Cist D.—In this were ten skeletons, eight of which we examined; four were those of adults, two possibly of each sex, and four of children, of about 3, 4, 7 and 17 years. It may here be briefly stated that the crania from these cists are almost uniformly of a somewhat lengthened oval or dolichocephalic form. . . . The only thigh-bone which could be obtained for measurement was 18 inches and a half in length."

"The whole of the barrow has latterly been excavated by Mr. Scrope, but without discovering any further interments, nor anything worthy of note except two or three more flint-flakes of irregular form. The bulk of the stones having been carted away, the barrow is now consequently much reduced in elevation except at the east end where the cromlech stands, where the barrow has been left at its full height, and only dug through (as stated above) to ascertain the non-existence of any deposit."

The barrow is clearly of the "false passage grave type," and I strongly suspect that short approaches led to the chambers from the south lined with one or two pairs of uprights. This however cannot now be proved or disproved. The presence of a ditch on the south is recorded by Thurnam (*Arch.* XLII., 209), a most unusual feature for a barrow in oolitic country. It is at present under grass and the three stones seem in no danger.

Aubrey, *Mon. Brit.*, fol. 58 [Bodleian Library].

Sir R. Colt Hoare, MS in Devizes Library, Wilts. Misc. MSS. II. (Shelf 33, Case 3); published in part in the *Gentleman's Magazine*, xcii., 1822, Part I., p. 160, and in *The History of Castile Combe*, by G. Poulett Scrope, 1852, pp. 391-2.

Ib. id. *Ancient Wilts*, II., 99, Roman Æra, 101-2.

*Wilts. Arch. Mag.*, III. (November, 1856) pp. 164-177 (the best and fullest account, by Thurnam, with view by Crocker in 1821, and ground plan, reproduced above, after excavation in 1854-5; quoted extensively above).

Ib. id., VII., 323.

*Arch.*, XLII., 200, 203, 209.

*Crania Britannica*, by Thurnam and Davis, Plate 24.

## SOMERSET

### BANNERDOWN BURIAL-CHAMBER

Somerset, 8 S.E. Parish of Batheaston.

Height above O.D. between 500 and 600 feet ?

Aubrey says :—" On a hill called Bannersdowne which is above Ben-Easton [*sic*, for Batheaston], eastwards on the west end part thereof, on the north side, is an ancient rude monument which about 1655 was broken ; they are of coarse freestones, or rather the crust or outside of the free-stone quarrie : I could not learn that it had any name. This was (as I remember) about 4 foot high and some remains are yet left (1669)." The note is accompanied by a drawing of two uprights supporting two capstones. I have searched all over Bannerdown without success for this monument ; probably it has disappeared through quarrying. It seems impossible that Aubrey can have been referring to a monument on the site of the present Three Shire Stones, for they do not agree with his description of the site, and he would surely have been told their name.."

Aubrey, *Monumenta Britannica*, Pt. II., fol. 55 [Bodleian reference, "MS. Gen. Top. W.A.M., VII., 1862, p. 322, quoting Aubrey. [C. 25"]]

### STONES NEAR STAPLETON

Between his account of remains at Wick and Stoke Bishop, Seyer gives the following :—

" Another single stone of this kind stands upright in a garden adjoining to the Armoury, on the left hand as you go from Bristol to Stapleton. At present it is of a very irregular shape : about 4 feet high ending in a point, and 4 or 5 feet wide ; it is likely it was once very much taller, and still it is under the ground as deep as it is high above ground. Some years ago there was another stone of this kind not far from it, on the right hand of the same road ; but this one after removal was broken up and destroyed within memory."

I am indebted to Mr. A. T. Wicks for this reference.

*Memoirs Historical and Topographical of Bristol and its Neighbourhood*, by the Rev. S. Seyer, Vol. I., 1821, p. 106.





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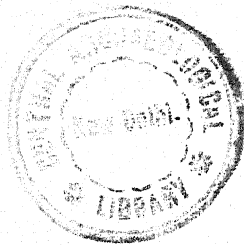
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(See folding Map inside Back Cover)



*The following blanks will be found useful for additional notes  
or comments relating to the subject matter of this work.*



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